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Dry Farming in Colorado

By H. F. PALMER

Comprising nearly the entire eastern portion of Colorado is an area which is about one-fourth larger than the state of Ohio. The annual rainfall of this vast area is only about 15 inches, but of this amount, nearly 11 inches of it occurs during the growing season. For many years this vast tract was thought to be fit only for grazing. Now science steps in and with her improved methods is raising crops which cause envy in the hearts of those situated in more humid regions.

Dry farming means more than irrigation to Colorado; for the most ardent admirers of irrigation do not claim they can reclaim more than one-half the amount of land that can be reclaimed by the dry farming process. The government, state institutions and great corporations have each and all demonstrated the fact that as good crops can be grown by dry farming as anywhere on God's green footstool.

The principal operations of Mr. Campbell have been in the western part of Kansas, where he has been conducting a model farm. On this same farm for thirteen years endeavors had been made to raise wheat by the common method with but one full success. On this same piece of ground Mr. Campbell set to work and for six successive seasons raised a crop of not less than 40 bushels per acre, and the sixth crop was a yield of 47½ bushels. During these same six years, a neighboring farmer tried the usual method and in two of the years did not have crop enough to pay the harvest and not a year did he get over 20 bushels per acre. What, then, caused the difference? Simply a scientific handling of soil.

Scientific soil culture, or dry farming, as it is usually called, is a method of conserving or holding the moisture in the soil to be used when needed for the plant. A few underlying principles form the basic part of this system. A certain amount of rain is necessary. At least 10 inches of moisture some time during the year, and our weather bureau has shown that for the last thirty-five years there has not been a single season but what we have had a sufficient fall of rain or snow to give moisture to grow any crop, provided it has been properly conserved. A growing crop cannot utilize over 20 inches of rain during the season and any moisture it receives in excess of this it simply so much wasted water. In your more humid sections where the average rainfall is 50 or 60 inches, there are times when some provision is necessary to care for excess water and provide a series of drains to carry it off.

Soil must be adapted. The upper strata of soil—preferably a loam—must be such that fine tilth is possible and the subsoil, preferably of clay, to be of such character as to hold moisture which percolates down to it, making, as it were, a reservoir under each crop. And lastly a seed adapted to the drouth-resistant conditions. In selections of seed they have searched the old country and brought forward a seed adapted to conditions found in eastern Colorado. The arid steppes of Russia, Turkestan and Germany have given us our Durhum wheat, our alfalfa and our speltz. In the planting of our crops, only about one-half to two-thirds as much seed per acre is required as in the humid regions. The reason for this is the stooling out so that each individual grain will produce many fully developed seed stalks.

The underlying principles of dry farming are not some new conception, but a rigid following of the principles laid down, not only by our older agricultural people, but by all who understand the movement of water in the soil. The fine compacted soil, with its light, loose top covering, will, from its mechanical condition, allow all rain which falls on this surface to slowly percolate to the subsoil, where it is held as in a reservoir to be drawn by the plant as needed. The loose surface mulch tends to prevent all evaporation and so all moisture in the ground is held or conserved for future use; and in the language of one writer, the rain is made to come up instead of down.

Dry farming is in reality but a scientific soil culture. Great care is taken in the preparation of the seed bed. The first plowing is deeper than the older slipshod ways, and the second and subsequent plowings are still deeper, as an average depth of about nine inches is obtained. The very day plowing is done the packer is passed over the ground and under part of the furrow put in a fine, closely compact condition. The packer is then followed with a harrow which puts the upper two or three inches in a loose condition and thus prevents the evaporation. Here comes in the great advantage of using the steam plow outfit, as packer, harrow and seeder follow the plow and at once put the seed bed into perfect condition before the furrow has a chance to dry out. Cultivation does not cease with the planting of the seed, but even after the crop is up, be it a row crop as corn or peas, or a drilled crop as wheat or oats, the harrow is still used. That few upper inches of soil is kept in a fine, loosely pulverized condition so that all rain may readily percolate down to subsoil and also to prevent evaporation of that moisture when it is once in the ground. But how, you ask, can a crop of oats or wheat be cultivated after it has started to grow? Do not you eastern farmers put your spike-tooth harrow in your wheat in the spring to prepare your ground so as to get a catch of clover seed in your wheat field? In the same manner this upper part of surface in our oat and wheat crops is kept finely pulverized until the crop has obtained sufficient growth to shade the ground. Yes, it may destroy a few spears now and then, but what is the loss of so small an amount of the stand as compared with the added yield it brings you? After each rain this ground is gone over and the upper two or three inches kept in a fine loose condition. A great amount of work, you say, but it is the universal opinion of all that dry farming entails less work than the irrigation methods. While the irrigated land costs something like $50 an acre to work, the dry farmer can raise his crop at a cost of $8 or $10 an acre. True, the dry farmer cannot hope to equal in size the crops of the irrigated farmer, still the largest yield of wheat in Colorado the past season was dry farming wheat, and when you come to consider the extra cost of water and labor in irrigated sections, the margin of profit is greatly in favor of the dry farmer.

Dry farming products always top the market. The wheat will weigh some 61 or 62 pounds a measured bushel, the oats 36 to 40 pounds a measured bushel. The drought-resistant conditions under which they are grown do not put the extra moisture into the fruit, berry or kernel so that no shrinking takes place. This is true not only of the grains, but of the tubers and fruits. The dry farming cherries topped Denver's market this season, and while irrigated potatoes were selling at 70 cents to $1, the dry farming potatoes brought a ready sale at $1.25, to be used as seed in those same irrigated districts. They have come to know the value of a potato raised above the ditch, and will plant only dry farming potatoes.

Another disadvantage that is realized by the irrigationist and that is, no matter how careful any farmer may be regarding foul weeds on his place, there will be the careless one above him on the same line of ditch who will be the means of scattering seeds all along the line of ditch.

Another advantage of farming in the so-called semi-arid condition is the ease and certainty of securing our crops at harvest time. Instead of the catchy weather, clear, bright days are usually present and one can gather the crop with but little chance of loss through repeated rains or foul weather to nearly spoil the crop before it can be goten in a condition to gather.

Corn is the only crop on which we have to back down as our nights are too cool for good development.

Believing that actual demonstrations were of more service than many written articles there has been formed in Denver an association known as the Scientific Farmers' association, whose sole object was to demonstrate beyond the possibility of a doubt that crops could be raised with great profit on these semi-arid plains. Model farms were established, soil broken and crops raised which could not help but convince the most skeptical that our cheap land was of infinitely more value for agricultural crops than for grazing. The range of crops is as great here as in any part of the United States. Not only the field crops, but fruits and vegetables as well are raised by this same intensive cultivation process.

OLDEST TREE IN THE WORLD

About 2,200 Years Old—Was a Branch From the Tree of Buddha.

What is supposed to be the oldest tree in the world is still standing in Ceylon. Its age is given as about 2,200 years and a writer in the National Geographic Magazine says that the statement is undoubtedly quite correct.

About 300 B. C. there was brought to Ceylon a branch of the tree under which the Buddha Gautama sat when he attained buddhahood. The tree, which now has the distinction of being the oldest in the world, is the growth of that branch.

Greatly revered by the pilgrims, it has a temple erected in its honor. Through centuries it has been respected and spared by all. During its lifetime most of the world's history has been made. It was already old when Christ brought His message to the world.

WEALTH OF EMPIRE STATE

Per Capita Division Would Give Each Inhabitant $2,000.

By the computation of the census bureau the wealth of the state of New York comprised in farms and other real property, factories, railroads, telegraphs, canals, machinery, gold and silver, etc., is $14,769,042,207.

This is approximately one-seventh of the national total of $107,000,000,000. It exceeds Italy's wealth by nearly $2,000,000,000 and is about equal to the combined national resources of Spain, Portugal, Switzerland and the Netherlands. It ranks New York among the financial great powers, with a standing just below that of Austria-Hungary.

A per capita division of the state's wealth would give $2,000 to every man, woman and child, as compared with the national average of $1,320. It represents the aggregate possession of 15,000 plain millionaires, fifty Carnegies or twenty Rockefellers. It would buy all the railroads in the United States.

To this enormous wealth the state is adding $500,000,000 a year, or almost the valuation of a Baltimore. It is a wonderful showing of material prosperity, one that gives a prouder claim to the title of empire state. Within this single commonwealth is now contained more than double the wealth of the entire nation half a century ago and its annual increase more than exceeds the total value of our export trade when Grant was president.—New York World.

THREE CENTURIES ON A THRONE

There has been only one monarch who for three hundred and fifty years sat on his throne, crown upon his head, scepter in his hand, and dressed in the royal robes, keeping solemn dominion over the dead.

Charlemagne, the great Frankish ruler, during his life built for himself at Aix-la-Chapelle, in Prussia, a chapel, and beneath the chapel a tomb. When the monarch died in 814 his body was placed, fully dressed, with scepter and crown, in a sitting position, upon a marble throne in this tomb.

Nearly two hundred years afterward the Emperor Otto III. had the vault opened, and it is said that the body of the great emperor was found in a state of wonderful preservation, still seated upon his throne, which his sword by his side and the gospels open in his lap. Again, in 1165, the Emperor Barbarossa (Frederick I.) had the vault opened, and in 1215 Frederick II. took the remains from the silent chamber over which for so many years they had kept guard and had them put into a casket of gold and silver, in which they are still kept.

INDIAN HAS LEARNED.

Puts High Price on His Work and Flatters White Man.

I really felt sorry for the Indians, whose mouldering rancherias stood as mute and pathetic witnesses of dispossession along the lake shore. Then I fell to wondering whether the Indians really appreciated their blessings when they had this land all for their own, and as I remembered a few of the characteristic traits of the California red man, I lost much of my sorrow at their fate. Many Indians there are still in Lake county, but they have left the ways of their fathers and now follow the guidance of the good priests at the mission houses. They have learned much besides the religion, as one will readily discover if he desire a beautifully woven basket, the making of which has brought much fame to the Pomo Indians. The red man and his squaw have discovered the value of money, and also understand that the baskets, which they made for household usage, have great value as works of art. The fact that I was asked $250 for a basket that I especially admired changed the admiration from the wicker work to the wicker worker.

Lakeport was reached by noon, just in time for a hurried luncheon, and then the program said we must go to Kelseyville for an afternoon meeting. The sun came out bright and warm, and Mount Konochti stood in all its glory across the lake, its remarkable marking whence comes its name standing bright and clear against the green of the forest on its sides. If one asks the people of Lake county what Konochti means, they will never change expression while they answer, "Big Chief." And all the while they know that it means something entirely different, but they think they have a right to this interpretation, for the early surveyors of the government named it "Uncle Sam," and if Uncle Sam isn't the big chief of the world they would like to know who is. In fact and truth, Konochti means "dead horse," and the name comes from the figure of a horse lying on its back which is outlined away up on the side of the mountain. It is a bare spot in the midst of trees, and the Indians, who looked less to poesy than facts, gave the name, which the whites of Lake county adhere to, but which they have changed in interpretation to suit their ideas of propriety.—San Francisco Chronicle.

WORLD'S YOUNGEST TELEGRAPH OPERATOR

The Wisconsin & Michigan road claims the distinction of having the youngest telegraph operator in the world. This world wonder is located at Loretto in the person of Earl Moss, who at the age of 6 can send and take messages from the wire with perfect ease and intelligence.

Earl is the son of L. J. Moss, the operator at Loretto for the W. & M. road, and when quite young was taught the Morse code by his father. He is quite correct in his manipulation of the keg. His father and employes of the road generally say he is the youngest operator they have ever heard of.—Iron Mountain correspondence Detroit News.

OLDEST BEAUTY SHOP IN THE WORLD

Beauty shops are to be found in every street today; it is only generally known that the oldest one in the world was kept by the monks of the Santa Maria Novella convent, in Florence, 400 years ago. Famous for beauty balms and perfumery, it was patronized by popes, princes and dukes, and all the recipes were made from herbs cultivated in the convent gardens. There were waters for whitening and softening the skin, cures for tooth and other aches; even the health and beauty of the hair were studied by these old monks, who were at once doctors, chemists and perfumers, and whose work was the cultivation of human health and beauty. The orris powder of Santa Maria Novella is the finest in the world.—The Tatler.

KNEW THEIR OLD MASTER

Dr. Lyon Recognized by His Horses After an Absence of Three Years.

One of the warmest welcomes that Dr. E. Lyon, of New Britain, Conn., has received since his recent return from a three years' trip abroad was given him this week when he met two of his pet horses by chance in this city. Both recognized him at once.

Before Dr. Lyon left his home in New Britain three years ago he owned a pair of horses. One was a mare named Rosa, who had been taught many tricks, and the other was a high headed notional gelding, who also was very fond of the doctor. Rosa was sold to Father Walsh, of Plainville, and the gelding went to a local livery stable when Dr. Lyon left for the other side.

While on a visit to Hartford recently Dr. Lyon learned that Rosa had been bought by T. J. Long of that city and being interested in his old pet looked up her owner. The two started out for her stable. Rosa was harnessed with blinders on and could not see her master and her old owner.

When within a few feet of her Dr. Lyon said in a well modulated voice, "Hello, Rosa." Instantly the mare, who had not heard his voice in three years, became all animation and turned her head around. As soon as she saw Dr. Lyon she showed every sign of wanting to get to her old friend.

When the hitching strap was removed Dr. Lyon said quietly, "Back just a little; a little more," and the mare did the trick exactly as she had been taught to do it years before and then looked up in her old master's face for commendation.

After that he asked her to do several tricks and in not one was he disappointed, she remembering each command to the letter. The doctor then jumped into the wagon and drove to the livery stable where the gelding was quartered, curious to see if the other horse would remember him.

The gelding was at home and as soon as he heard his old master's voice he pricked up his ears and showed every sign of pleasure. When the doctor fondled his head and called him by his pet name he put his head down almost to the ground, a thing that the stablemen had been unable to make him do.

OUR BILLIONS OF ANCESTORS

Has anybody ever stopped to think how many male and female ancestors it took to bring us into the world? First, of course, it was necessary to have a father and mother, and our father and mother must have had a father and mother, and so on back through fifty-six generations to the time of Christ.

A careful calculation of all these ancestors shows that there must have been 139,235,017,489,534,976 births to bring one of us into the world. And this is only from the time of Christ, and not from the beginning of the world.

According to one authority, if from a single couple for five thousand years each husband and wife had married at the age of twenty-one, and there had been no deaths, the population of the earth would be 2,199,915, followed by one hundred and forty-four ciphers. To hold such a population it would take several worlds the size of ours.

NAPOLEON'S LIFE THE STAKE

During the greater part of his lifetime, Napoleon was a subject of interest, awe, or terror to the most of Europe. It would hardly have been flattering to his self esteem, however, had he known that he was also the occasion of the following curious wager.

At a dinner party in London in 1809, after the champagne had circulated freely, Sir Mark Sykes offered to pay a guinea a day as long as Napoleon lived to anyone who would give him one hundred guineas down. A minister of gaming proclivities, the Rev. B. Gilbert, who was present, accepted the offer, and for three years received a steady income of three hundred and sixty-five guineas a year.

At the end of this time Sykes discontinued payment. Gilbert brought action to recover; but lost his suit.

NEW BELT FOR NAVY'S USE

Holster for Revolver a Part of the Combination Article.

The United States navy is now being supplied with an article of equipment which has not only been long desired, but is novel and of a character suited to the growing needs of both officers and men of the service. It is a peculiarly woven cartridge belt and revolver holster.

The combination article consists of a belt with a series of pockets for carrying cartridges and bearing a holster of peculiar pattern. That for the officers is of blue-black mercerized silk, that for the men of drab mercerized cotton. All the metal attachments, such as buckle, size adjustments and the like are bronzed. The beauty of this choice of materials is that, unlike leather, they will not dry and crack, and, unlike the conventional brass, the bronzed metal will not gather the green mold from which the usual brass suffers. The mold that comes to leather from exposure to dampness is also avoided.

The belt is 2¼ inches wide and has eight pockets, each capable of holding six cartridges, the number carried in the cylinder of the regulation navy revolver. There is a separate cover and also an inside flap for each pocket, the cartridge within being thus secured against damage from exposure. The belt is woven in one piece and is as simple as it is strong.

The holster is also in one piece, the only holster yet designed in one piece. Glove fasteners hold the flaps of the cartridge pockets and also of the holster in place. The whole affair is light, that for the officers weighing but sixteen and one-half ounces, while that for the men weighs only fourteen and one-half ounces.

The new belt and holster outfit was designed by the officers on duty in the bureau of ordnance in the navy department.

POWDER MILLS HEROISM

Men Who Manufacture Explosives Apparently Fearless of Danger.

"I always like to read of the heroism of firemen and policemen, but I think that Virginia can pride herself on having more heroic acts accomplished in a year than any other state in the Union," said Mr. Roger Harriss, of Charlottesville, Va., recently. "The Virginias and Carolinas have 90 per cent of the powder mills in the country and the Du Pont people alone furnish the government with a large amount of explosive. The mixing process is an extremely dangerous one and there are many instances where the powder has exploded from seemingly no cause.

"When hundreds of kegs of powder are piled together in a warehouse the effects of an explosion are too terrible for comprehension. When we do have a disaster it generally is an awful one, but hardly a month passes when the heroism of an employe does out save the plants from destruction and the lives of hundreds of workers. About two months ago the Du Pont mill near Norfolk caught fire from the outside and within 100 feet of the scene of the blaze was a warehouse containing several tons of giant powder. With scarcely a thought of the great danger the workmen secured the fire fighting apparatus and quickly got the fire under control.

"When the danger seemed over a sudden gust of wind blew a number of the blazing brands directly on the roof of the powder house. Before the roof could catch afire a half dozen of the workmen were upon it and extinguished the blaze with brooms and pails of water. This, I think, is true heroism."—Milwaukee Sentinel.

TREE PLANTING BY A RAILWAY

The Canadian Pacific Railway company has begun tree planting on quite an extensive scale along its western lines. A contract has been let for a small acreage of breaking near Wolseley, on which it is the intention to experiment with tamarack for ties. A piece of ground is also to be planted at Medicine Hat with jack pine and tamarack for the same purpose. Over 100 miles of trees are to be planted between Winnipeg and Calgary for snow breaks and at several stations trees are to be planted around the station grounds, and prizes are to be offered the section foremen who make the best showing.—Canadian Forestry Journal.

WASHINGTON WIDOWERS.

That the revocation of free railroad passes is not an unmixed blessing begins to be indicated by the news from Washington that few of the congressmen this year have brought their families. They claim they cannot afford to pay transportation for wives and children, and the government makes no allowance for family mileage. The effect of this compulsory and temporary widowerhood may soon become apparent in the national laws. We all know the giddiness of the man in a city, away from home influences, and we look to see the national "lid" sailing skyward ere the end of this session. Some wise legislator, before the thing goes too far and habits become confirmed, should introduce a bill allowing congressmen mileage for their family transportation. We cannot feel secure in our lives, liberty and pursuit of lucre while the legislative functions of the government are in the hands of free and unlimited widowers. The country will not be safe. To the wives and daughters of congressmen rather than to congressmen themselves do we owe that stability of our institution which our lawmakers have conserved. The man who must go at once to the bosom of his family after his labors feels constrained toward constant rectitude. He remains sober and honest and industrious. Our Uncle Joseph Cannon, it is to be hoped, will throw himself into this breach and see to it that congressmen have their wives with them. He will find it easier to manage them, too, for they will be accustomed to discipline.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

TURKEY TALE.

De parson say "Dat turkey
De bes' I ever see;
I wonder whar dey kotched it,
An' whar de roost kin be.

"I foun' him on de do'step
Des shiv'rin' in de storm;
I fotched him ter de fire
An' put him on ter warm.

"An' den I get so drowsy
I nodded up an' down,
An' w'en I wake, de fire
Had cook dat turkey brown!"

Dat way he tell de story,
When sudden on de do'
Dar come a mighty knockin'
Dat almost shook de flo'!

De parson stomped de fire—
His foot wus fire-proof!
An' den clumb up de chim'ny
An' crawl out on de roof!

De sheriff say: "Dat turkey
De bes' I ever see!
I knows des whar he kotched him—
He gwine home wid me!"
—Atlanta Constitution.

THE WOMAN IN THE ALCOVE

By ANNA KATHARINE GREEN

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III.

With benumbed senses and a dismayed heart, I stared at the fallen jewel as at some hateful thing menacing both my life and honor.

"I have had nothing to do with it," I vehemently declared. "I did not put the gloves in my bag, nor did I know the diamond was in them. I fainted at the first alarm, and—"

"There! there! I know," interposed the inspector kindly. "I do not doubt you in the least; not when there is a man to doubt. Miss Van Arsdale, you had better let your uncle take you home. I will see that the hall is cleared for you. Tomorrow I may wish to talk to you again, but I will spare you all further importunity tonight."

I shook my head. It would require more courage to leave at that moment than to stay. Meeting the inspector's eye firmly, I quietly declared,

"If Mr. Durand's good name is to suffer in any way, I will not forsake him. I have confidence in his integrity, if you have not. It was not his hand, but one much more guilty, which dropped this jewel into the bag."

"So! so! do not be too sure of that, little woman. You had better take your lesson at once. It will be easier for you, and more wholesome for him."

Here he picked up the jewel.

"Well, they said it was a wonder!" he exclaimed in his sudden admiration. "I am not surprised, now that I have seen a great gem, at the famous stories I have read of men risking life and honor for their possession. If only no blood had been shed!"

"Uncle! uncle!" I wailed aloud in my agony.

It was all my lips could utter, but to uncle it was enough. Speaking for the first time, he asked to have a passage made for us, and when the inspector moved forward to comply, he threw his arm about me, and was endeavoring to find fitting words with which to fill up the delay, when a short altercation was heard from the doorway, and Mr. Durand came rushing in, followed immediately by the inspector.

His first look was not at myself, but at the bag, which still hung from my arm. As I noted this action, my whole inner self seemed to collapse, dragging my happiness down with it. But my countenance remained unchanged, too much so, it seems; for when his eye finally rose to my face, he found there what made him recoil and turn with something like fierceness on his companion.

"You have been talking to her," he vehemently protested. "Perhaps you have gone further than that. What has happened here? I think I ought to know. She is so guileless, Inspector Dalzell; so perfectly free from all connection with this crime. Why have you shut her up here, and plied her with questions, and made her look at me with such an expression, when all you have against me is just what you have against some half-dozen others—that I was weak enough, or unfortunate enough, to spend a few minutes with that unhappy woman in the alcove before she died?"

"It might be well if Miss Van Arsdale herself would answer you," was the inspector's quiet retort. "What you have said my constitute all that we have against you, but it is not all we have against her."

I gasped, not so much at this seeming accusation, the motive of which I believed myself to understand, but at the burning blush with which it was received by Mr. Durand.

"What do you mean?" he demanded, with certain odd breaks in his voice. "What can you have against her?"

"A triviality," returned the inspector, with a look in my direction that was, I felt, not to be mistaken.

"I do not call it a triviality," I burst out. "It seems that Mrs. Fairbrother, for all her elaborate toilet, was found without gloves on her arms. As she certainly wore them on entering the alcove, the police have naturally been looking for them. And where do you think they have found them? Not in the alcove with her, not in the possession of the man who undoubtedly carried them away with him, but—"

"I know, I know," Mr. Durand hoarsely put in. "You need not say any more. Oh, my poor Rita! what have I brought upon you by my weakness?"

"Weakness!"

He started; I started; my voice was totally unrecognizable.

"I should give it another name," I added coldly.

For a moment he seemed to lose heart, then he lifted his head again, and looked as handsome as when he pleaded for my hand in the little conservatory.

"You have that right," said he; "besides, weakness at such a time, and under such an exigency, is little short of wrong. It was unmanly in me to endeavor to secrete these gloves; more than unmanly for me to choose for their hiding place the recesses of an article belonging exclusively to yourself. I acknowledge it, Rita, and shall meet only my just punishment if you deny me in the future both your sympathy and regard. But you must let me assure you and these gentlemen, also, one of whom can make it very unpleasant for me, that consideration for you, much more than any miserable anxiety about myself, lay at the bottom of what must strike you all as an act of unpardonable cowardice. From the moment I learned of this woman's murder in the alcove, where I had visited her, I realized that every one who had been seen to approach her within a half-hour of her death would be subjected to a more or less rigid investigation, and I feared, if her gloves were found in my possession, some special attention might be directed my way which would cause you unmerited distress. So, yielding to an impulse which I now recognize as a most unwise, as well as unworthy one, I took advantage of the bustle about us, and of the insensibility into which you had fallen, to tuck these miserable gloves into the bag I saw lying on the floor at your side. I do not ask your pardon. My whole future life shall be devoted to winning that; I simply wish to state a fact."

"Very good!" It was the inspector who spoke; I could not have uttered a word to save my life. "Perhaps you will now feel that you owe it to this young lady to add how you came to have these gloves in your possession?"

"Mrs. Fairbrother handed them to me."

"Handed them to you?"

"Yes, I hardly know myself. She asked me to take care of them for her. I know that this must strike you as a peculiar statement. It was my realization of the unfavorable effect it could not fail to produce upon those who heard it, which made me dread any interrogation on the subject. But I assure you it was as I say. She put the gloves into my hand while I was talking to her, saying they incommoded her."

"And you?"

"Well, I held them for a few minutes, then I put them in my pocket, but quite automatically, and without thinking very much about it. She was a woman accustomed to have her own way. People seldom questioned it, I judge."

Here the tension about my throat relaxed, and I opened my lips to speak. But the inspector, with a glance of some authority, forestalled me.

"Were the gloves open or rolled up when she offered them to you?"

"They were rolled up."

"Did you see her take them off?"

"Assuredly."

"And roll them up?"

"Certainly."

"After which she passed them over to you?"

"Not immediately. She let them lie in her lap for a while."

"While you talked?"

Mr. Durand bowed.

"And looked at the diamond?"

Mr. Durand bowed for the second time.

"Had you ever seen so fine a diamond before?"

"No."

"Yet you deal in precious stones?"

"That is my business."

"And are regarded as a judge of them?"

"I have that reputation."

"Mr. Durand, would you know this diamond if you saw it?"

"I certainly should."

"The setting was an uncommon one, I hear."

"Quite an unsual one."

The inspector opened his hand.

"Is this the article?"

"Good God! Where—"

"Don't you know?"

"I do not."

The inspector eyed him gravely.

"Then I have a bit of news for you. It was hidden in the gloves you took from Mrs. Fairbrother. Miss Van Arsdale was present at their unrolling."

Do we live, move, breathe at certain moments? It hardly seems so. I know that I was conscious of but one sense, that of seeing; and of but one faculty, that of judgment. Would he flinch, break down, betray guilt, or simply show astonishment? I chose to believe it was the latter feeling only which informed his slowly whitening and disturbed features. Certainly it was all his words expressed, as his glances flew from the stone to the gloves, and back again to the inspector's face.

"I cannot believe it. I canot believe it." And his hand flew wildly to his forehead.

"Yet it is the truth, Mr. Durand, and one you have now to face. How will you do this? By any further explanations, or by what you may consider a discreet silence?"

"I have nothing to explain—the facts are as I have stated."

The inspector regarded him with an earnestness which made my heart sink.

"You can fix the time of this visit, I hope; tell us, I mean, just when you left the alcove. You must have seen someone who can speak for you."

"I fear not."

Why did he look so disturbed and uncertain?

"There were but few persons in the hall just then," he went on to explain. "No one was sitting on the yellow divan."

"You know where you went, though? Whom you saw and what you did before the alarm spread?"

"Inspector, I am quite confused. I did go somewhere; I did not remain in that part of the hall. But I can tell you nothing definite, save that I walked about, mostly among strangers, till the cry rose which sent us all in one direction and me to the side of my fainting sweetheart."

"Can you pick out any stranger you talked to, or any one who might have noted you during this interval? You see, for the sake of this little woman, I wish to give you every chance."

"Inspector, I am obliged to throw myself on your mercy. I have no such witnesses to my innocence as you call for. Innocent people seldom have. It is only the gulity who take the trouble to provide for such contingencies."

This was all very well, if it had been uttered with a straightforward air and in a clear tone. But it was not. I who loved him felt that it was not, and consequently was more or less prepared for the change which now took place in the inspector's manner. Yet it pierced me to the heart to observe this change, and I instinctively dropped my face into my hands when I saw him move toward Mr. Durand with some final order or word of caution.

Instantly (and who can account for such phenomena,) there floated into view before my retina a reproduction of the picture I had seen, or imagined myself to have seen, in the supper room; and as at that time it opened before me an unknown vista quite removed from the surrounding scene, so it did now, and I beheld again in faint outlines, and yet with the effect of complete distinctness, a square of light through which appeared an open passage partly shut off from view by a half-lifted curtain and the tall figure of a man holding back this curtain and gazing, or seeming to gaze at his own breast, on which he had already laid one quivering finger.

What did it mean? In the excitement of the horrible occurrence which had engrossed us all, I had forgotten this curious experience; but on feeling anew the vague sensation of shock and expectation which seemed its natural accompaniment, I became conscious of a sudden conviction that the picture which had opened before me in the supper-room was the result of a reflection in a glass or mirror of something then going on in a place not otherwise within the reach of my vision; a reflection, the importance of which I suddenly realized when I recalled at what a critical moment it had occurred. A man in a state of dread looking at his breast, within five minutes of the stir and rush of the dreadful event which had marked this evening!

A hope, great as the despair in which I had just been sunk, gave me courage to drop my hands and advance impetuously toward the inspector.

"Don't speak, I pray; don't judge any of us further till you have heard what I have to say."

In great astonishment and with an aspect of some severity, he asked me what I had to say now which I had not had the opportunity of saying before. I replied with all the passion of a forlorn hope that it was only at this present moment I remembered a fact which might have a very decided bearing on this case; and, detecting evidences, as I thought, of relenting on his part, I backed up this statement by an entreaty for a few words with him apart, as the matter I had to tell was private and possibly too fanciful for any ear but his own.

He looked as if he apprehended some loss of valuable time, but, touched by the involuntary gesture of appeal with which I supplemented my request, he led me into a corner, where, with just an encouraging glance toward Mr. Durand, who seemed struck dumb by my action, I told the inspector of that momentary picture which I had seen reflected in what I was now sure was some window-pane or mirror.

"It was at a time coincident, or very nearly coincident, with the perpetration of the crime you are now investigating," I concluded. "Within five minutes afterward came the shout which aroused us all to what had happened in the alcove. I do not know what passage I saw or what door or even what figure; but the latter, I am sure, was that of the guilty man. Something in the outline (and it was the outline only I could catch) expressed an emotion incomprehensible to me at the moment, but which, in my remembrance, impresses me as that of fear and dread. It was not the entrance to the alcove I beheld—that would have struck me at once—but some othr opening which I might recognize if I saw it. Can not that opening be found, and may it not give a clue to the man I saw skulking through it with terror and remorse in his heart?"

"Was this figure, when you saw it, turned toward you or away?" the inspector inquired with unexpected interest.

"Turned partly away. He was going from me."

"And you sat—where."

"Shall I show you?"

The inspector bowed, then with a low word of caution turned to my uncle.

"I am going to take this young lady into the hall for a moment, at her own request. May I ask you and Mr. Durand to await me here.'

Without pausing for reply, he threw open the door and presently we were pacing the deserted supper room, seeking the place where I had sat. I found it almost by a miracle—everything being in great disorder. Guided by my bouquet, which I had left behind me in my escape from the table, I laid hold of the chair before which it lay, and declared quite confidently to the inspector:

"This is where I sat."

Naturally his glance and mine both flew to the opposite wall. A window was before us of an unusual size and make. Unlike any which had ever before come under my observation, it swung on a pivot, and, though shut at the present moment, might very easily, when opened, present its huge pane at an angle capable of catching reflections from some of the many mirrors decorating the reception room situated diagonally across the hall. As all the doorways on this lower floor were of unusual width, an open path was offered, as it were, for these reflections to pass, making it possible for scenes to be imaged here which, to the persons involved, would seem as safe from any one's scrutiny as if they were taking place in the adjoining house.

As we realized this, a look passed between us of more than ordinary significance. Pointing to the window, the inspector turned to a group of waiters watching us from the other side of the room and asked if it had been opened that evening.

The answer came quickly.

"Yes, sir,—just before the—the—"

"I understand," broke in the inspector; and, leaning over me, he whispered: "Tell me again exactly what you thought you saw."

But I could add little to my former description.

"Perhaps you can tell me this," he kindly persisted. "Was the picture, when you saw it, on a level with your eye, or did you have to lift your head in order to see it?"

"It was high up,—in the air, as it were. That seemed its oddest feature."

The inspector's mouth took a satisfied curve.

"Possibly I might identify the door and passage, if I saw them," I suggested.

"Certainly, certainly," was his cheerful rejoinder; and, summoning one of his men, he was about to give some order, when his impulse changed, and he asked of I could draw.

I assured him, in some surprise, that I was far from being an adept in that direction, but that possibly I might manage a rough sketch; whereupon he pulled a pad and pencil from his pocket and requested me to make some sort of attempt to reproduce, on paper, my memory of this passage and the door.

My heart was beating violently, and the pencil shook in my hand, but I knew that it would not do for me to show my hesitation in fixing for all eyes what, unaccountably to myself, continued to be perfectly plain to my own. So I endeavored to do as he bade me, and succeeded, to some extent, for he uttered a slight ejaculation at one of its features, and, while duly expressing his thanks, honored me with a very sharp look.

"Is this your first visit to this house?" he asked.

"No; I have been here before."

"In the evening, or in the afternoon?"

"In the afternoon."

"I am told that the main entrance is not in use tonight."

"No. A side door is provided for occasions like the present. Guests entering there find a special hall and staircase, by which they can reach the upstairs dressing-rooms, without crossing the main hall. Is that what you mean?"

"Yes, that is what I mean."

I stared at him in wonder. What lay back of such questions as these?

"You came in, as others did, by this side entrance," he now proceeded. "Did you notice, as you turned to go upstairs, an arch opening into a small passageway at your left?"

"I did not," I began, flushing, for I thought I understood him now. "I was too eager to reach the dressing-room to look about me."

"Very well," he replied; "I may want to show you that arch."

The outline of an arch, backing the figure we were endeavoring to identify, was a marked feature in the sketch I had shown him.

"Will you take a seat near by while I make a study of this matter?"

I turned with alacrity to obey. There was something in his air and manner which made me almost buoyant. Had my fanciful interpretation of what I had seen reached him with the conviction it had me? If so, there was hope,—hope for the man I loved, who had gone in and out between curtains, and not through any arch such as he had mentioned or I had decribed. Providence was working for me. I saw it in the way the men now moved about, swinging the window to and fro under the instruction of the inspector, manipulating the lights, opening doors and drawing back curtains. Providence was working for me, and when, a few minutes later, I was asked to reseat myself in my old place at the supper table and take another look in that slightly deflected glass, I knew that my effort had met with its reward, and that for the second time I was to receive the impression of a place now indelibly imprinted on my consciousness.

"Is not that it?" asked the inspector, pointing at the glass with a last look at the imperfect sketch I had made him and which he still held in his hand.

"Yes," I eagerly responded. "All but the man. He whose figure I see there is another person entirely; I see no remorse, or even fear, in his looks."

"Of course not. You are looking at the reflection of one of my men. Miss Van Arsdale, do you recognize the place now under your eye?"

"I do not. You spoke of an arch in the hall, at the left of the carriage entrance, and I see an arch in the window-pane before me, but—"

"You are looking straight through the alcove—perhaps you did not know that another door opened at its back—into the passage which runs behind it. Farther on is the arch, and beyond that arch the side hall and staircase leading to the dressing-rooms. This door, the one in the rear of the alcove, I mean, is hidden from those entering from the main hall by draperies which have been hung over it for this occasion, but it is quite visible from the back passageway, and there can be no doubt that it was by its means the man, whose reflected image you saw, both entered and left the alcove. It is an important fact to establish, and we feel very much obliged to you for the aid you have given us in this matter."

Then, as I continued to stare at him in my elation and surprise, he added, in quick explanation:

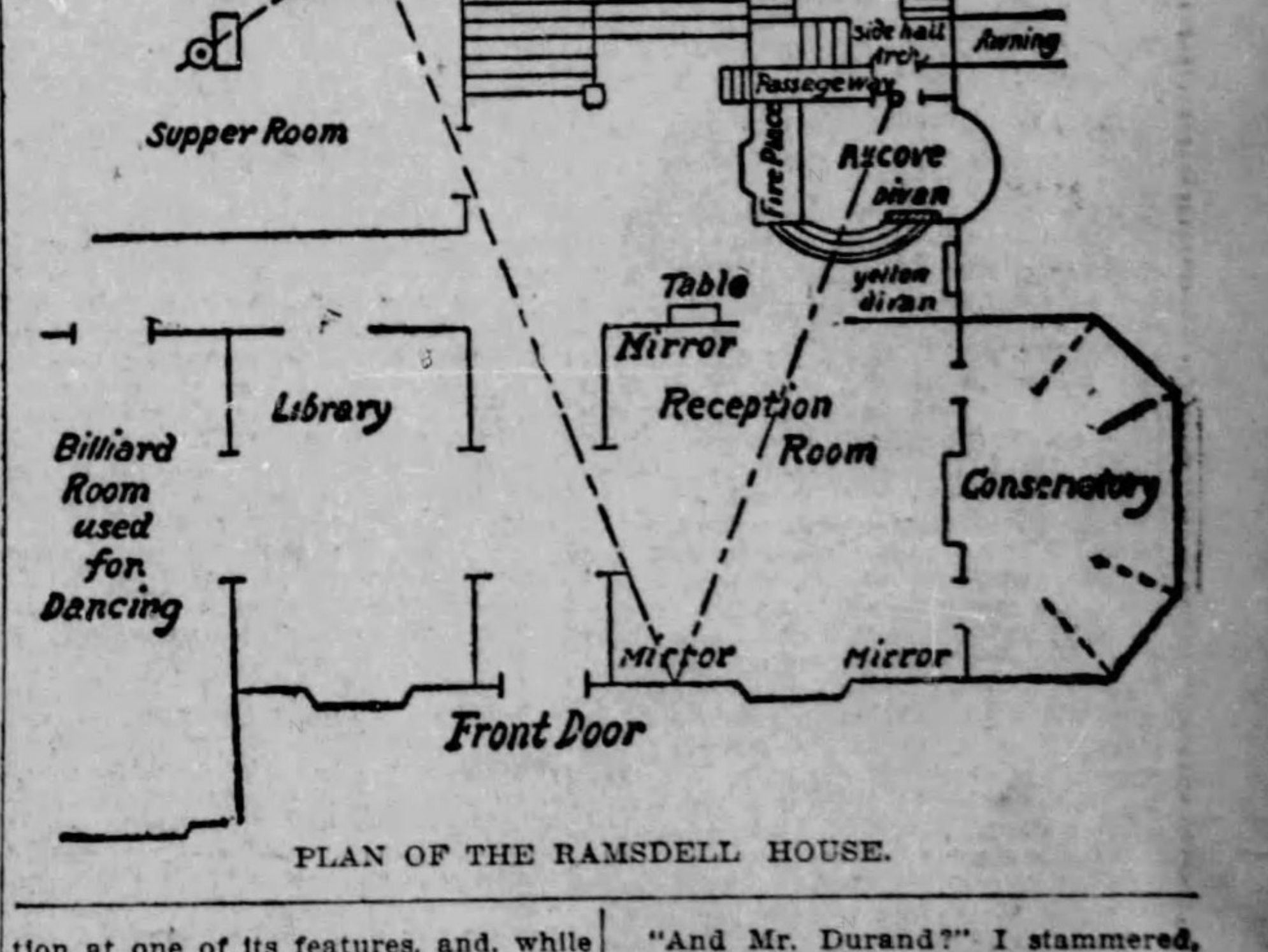
"The lights in the alcove, and in the several parlors, are all hung with shades, as you must perceive, but the one in the hall, beyond the arch, is very bright, which accounts for the distinctness of this double reflection. Another thing—and it is a very interesting point—it would have been impossible for this reflection to be noticeable from where you sit, if the level of the alcove flooring had not been considerably higher than that of the main floor. But for this freak of the architect, the continuel passing to and fro of people would have prevented the reflection in its passage from surface to surface. Miss Van Arsdale, it would seem that by one of those chances which happen but once or twice in a lifetime, every condition was propitious at the moment to make this reflection a possible occurrence—even the location and width of the several doorways and the exact point at which the portiere was drawn aside from the entrance to the alcove."

"It is wonderful," I cried, "wonderful!" Then, to his astonishment, perhaps, I asked if there was not a small door of communication between the passageway back of the alcove and the large central hall.

"Yes," he replied. "It opens just beyond the fireplace. Three small steps lead to it."

"I thought so," I murmured, but more to myself than to him. In my mind I was thinking how a man, if he so wished, could pass from the very heart of this assemblage into the quiet passageway, and so on into the alcove, without attracting very much attention from his fellow guests. I forgot that that there was another way of approach even less noticeable—that by the small staircase running up beyond the arch directly to the dressing rooms.

That no confusion may arise in any one's mind in regard to these curious approaches, I subjoin a plan of this portion of the lower floor as it afterward appeared in the leading dailies.



PLAN OF THE RAMSDELL HOUSE.

"And Mr. Durand?" I stammered, as I followed the inspector back to the room where we had left that gentleman. "You will believe his statement now and look for this second intruder with the guiltily-hanging head and frightened mien?"

"Yes," he replied, stopping me on the threshold of the door and taking my hand kindly in his. "If—(don't start, my dear, life is full of trouble for young and old, and youth is the best time to face a sad experience) if he is not himself the man you saw staring in frightened horror at his breast. Have you not noticed that he is not dressed in all respects like the other gentlemen present? That, though he has not donned his overcoat, he has put on, somewhat prematurely, one might say, the large silk handkerchief he presumably wears under it? Have you not noticed this, and asked yourself why?"

I had noticed it. I had noticed it from the moment I recovered from my fainting fit, but I had not thought it a matter of sufficient interest to ask, even of myself, his reason for thus hiding his shirt-front. Now I could not. My faculties were too confused, my heart too deeply shaken by the suggestion which the inspector's words conveyed, for me to be conscious of anything but the devouring question as to what I should do if, by my own mistaken zeal, I had succeeded in plunging the man I loved yet deeper into the toils in which he had become enmeshed.

The inspector left me no time for the settlement of this question. Ushering me back into the room where Mr. Durand and my uncle awaited our return in apparently unrelieved silence, he closed the door upon the curious eyes of the various persons still lingering in the hall, and abruptly said to Mr. Durand:

"The explanations you have been pleased to give of the manner in which this diamond came into your possession are not to fanciful for credence, if you can satisfy us on another point which has awakened some doubt in the mind of one of my men. Mr. Durand, you appear to have prepared yourself for departure somewhat prematurely. Do you mind removing that handkerchief for a moment? My reason for so peculiar a request will presently appear."

Alas, for my last fond hope! Mr. Durand, with a face as white as the background of snow framed by the uncurtained window against which he leaned, lifted his hand as if to comply with the inspector's request, then let it fall again with a grating laugh.

"I see that I am not likely to escape any of the results of my imprudence," he cried, and with a quick jerk bared his shirt-front.

A splash of red defiled its otherwise uniform whiteness! That it was the red of heart's blood was proved by the shrinking look he unconsciously cast at it.

IV

My love for Anson Durand died at sight of that crimson splash—or I thought it did. In this spot of blood on the breast of him to whom I had given my heart I could read but one word—guilt—heinous guilt, guilt denied and now brought to light in language that could be seen and read by all men. Why should I stay in such a presence? Had not the inspector advised me to go?

Yes, but another voice bade me remain. Just as I reached the door, Anson Durand found his voice and I heard, in the full, sweet tones I loved so well:

"Wait! I am not to be judged like this. I will explain!"

But here the inspector interposed.

"Do you think it wise to make any such attempt without the advice of counsel, Mr. Durand?"

The indignation with which Mr. Durand wheeled toward him raised in me a faint hope.

"Good God, yes!" he cried. "Would you have me leave Miss Van Arsdale one minute longer than is necessary to such dreadful doubts? Rita—Miss Van Arsdale—weakness, and weakness only, has brought me into my present position. I did not kill Mrs. Fairbrother, nor did I knowingly take her diamond, though appearances look that way, as I am very ready to acknowledge. I did go to her in the alcove, not once, but twice, and these are my reasons for doing so: About three months ago a certain well-known man of enormous wealth came to me with the request that I should procure for him a diamond of superior beauty. He wished to give it to his wife, and he wished it to outshine any which could now be found in New York. This meant sending abroad—an expense he was quite willing to incur on the sole condition that the stone should not disappoint him when he saw it, and that it was to be in his hands on the eighteenth of March, his wife's birthday. Never before had I had such an opportunity for a large stroke of business. Naturally elated, I entered at once into correspondence with the best known dealers on the other side, and last week a diamond was delivered to me which seemed to fill all the necessary requirements. I had never seen a finer stone, and was consequently rejoicing in my success, when some one, I do not remember who now, chanced to speak in my hearing of the wonderful stone possessed by a certain Mrs. Fairbrother—a stone so large, so brilliant and so precious altogether that she seldom wore it, though it was known to connoisseurs and had a great reputation at Tiffany's, where it had once been sent for some alteration in the setting. Was this stone larger and finer that the one I had procured with so much trouble? If so, my labor had been all in vain, for my patron must have known of this diamond and would expect to see it surpassed.

"I was so upset by this possibility that I resolved to see the jewel and make comparisons for myself. I found a friend who agreed to introduce me to the lady. She received me very graciously and was amiable enough until the subject of diamonds was broached, when she immediately stiffened and left me without an opportunity of proffering my request. However, on every other subject she was affable, and I found it easy enough to pursue the acquaintance till we were almost on friendly terms. But I never saw the diamond, nor would she talk about it, though I caused her some surprise when one day I drew out before her eyes the one I had procured for my patron and made her look at it. 'Fine,' she cried, 'fine!' But I failed to detect any envy in her manner, and so knew that I had not achieved the object set me by my wealthy customer. This was a woeful disappointment; yet, as Mrs. Fairbrother never wore her diamond, it was among the possibilities that he might be satisfied with the very fine gem I had obtained for him, and, influenced by this hope, I sent him this morning a request to come and see it tomorrow. Tonight I attended this ball, and almost as soon as I enter the drawing-room I hear that Mrs. Fairbrother is present and is wearing her famous jewel. What could you expect of me? Why, that I would make an effort to see it and so be ready with a reply to my exacting customer when he should ask me tomorrow if the stone I showed him had its peer in the city. But she was not in the drawing-room then, and later I became interested elsewhere"—here he cast a look at me—"so that half the evening passed before I had an opportunity to join her in the so-called alcove, where I had seen her set up her miniature court. What passed between us in the short interview we held together you will find me prepared to state, if necessary. It was chiefly marked by the one short view I succeeded in obtaining of her marvelous diamond, in spite of the pains she took to hide it from me by some natural movement whenever she caught my eyes leaving her face. But in that one short look I had seen enough. This was a gem for a collector, not to be worn save in a royal presence. How had she come by it? And could Mr. Smythe expect me to procure him a stone like that? In my confusion I arose to depart, but the lady showed a disposition to keep me, and began chatting so vivaciously that I scarcely noticed that she was all the time engaged in drawing off her gloves. Indeed I almost forgot the jewel, possibly because her movements hid it so completely, and only remembered it when, with a sudden turn from the window where she had drawn me to watch the falling flakes, she pressed the gloves into my hand with the coquettish request that I should take care of them for her. I remember, as I took them, of striving to catch another glimpse of the stone, whose brilliancy had dazzled me, but she had opened her fan between us. A moment after, thinking I heard approaching steps, I quitted the room. This was my first visit."

As he stopped, possibly for breath, possibly to judge to what extent I was impressed by his account, the inspector seized the opportunity to ask if Mrs. Fairbrother had been standing any of this time with her back to him. To which he answered yes, while they were in the window.

"Long enough for her to pluck off the jewel and thrust it into the gloves, if she had so wished?"

"Quite long enough."

"But you did not see her do this?"

"I did not."

"And so took the gloves without suspicion?"

"Entirely so."

"And carried them away?"

"Unfortunately, yes."

"Without thinking that she might want them the next minute?"

"I doubt if I was thinking seriously of her at all. My thoughts were on my own disappointment."

"Did you carry these gloves out in your hand?"

"No, in my pocket."

"I see. And you met—"

"No one. The sound I heard must have come from the rear hall."

"And there was nobody on the steps?"

"No. A gentleman was standing at their foot—Mr. Grey, the Englishman—but his face was turned another way, and he looked as if he had been in that same position for several minutes."

"Did this gentleman—Mr. Grey—see you?"

"I cannot say, but I doubt it. He appeared to be in a sort of dream. There were other people about, but nobody with whom I was acquainted."

"Very good. Now for the second visit you acknowledge having paid this unfortunate lady."

The inspector's voice was hard. I clung a little more tightly to my uncle, and Mr. Durand, after one agonizing glance my way, drew himself up as if quite conscious that he had entered upon the most serious part of the struggle.

"I had forgotten the gloves in my hurried departure; but presently I remembered them, and grew very uneasy. I did not like carrying this woman's property about with me. I had engaged myself, an hour before, to Miss Van Arsdale, and was very anxious to rejoin her. The gloves worried me, and finally, after a little aimless wandering through the various rooms, I determined to go back and restore them to their owner. The doors of the supper-room had just been flung open, and the end of the hall near the alcove was comparatively empty, save for a certain quizzical friend of mine, whom I saw sitting with his partner on the yellow divan. I did not want to encounter him just then, for he had already joked me about my admiration for the lady with the diamond, and so I conceived the idea of approaching her by means of a second entrance to the alcove, unsuspected by most of those present, but perfectly well known to me, who have been a frequent guest in this house. A door, covered by temporary draperies, connects, as you may know, this alcove with a passageway connecting directly with the hall of entrance and the upstairs dressing-room. To go up the main stairs and come down by the side one, and so on, through a small archway, was a very simple matter for me. If no early-departing or late-arriving guests were in that hall, I need fear but one encounter, and that was with the servant stationed at the carriage entrance. But even he was absent at this propitious instant, and I reached the door I sought without any unpleasantness. This door opened out instead of in—this I also knew when planning this surreptitious intrusion, but, after pulling it open and reaching for the curtain, which hung completely across it, I found it not so easy to proceed as I had imagined. The stealthiness of my action held back my hand; then the faint sounds I heard within advised me that she was not alone, and that she might very readily regard with displeasure my unexpected entrance by a door of which she was possibly ignorant. I tell you all this because, if by any chance I was seen hesitating in face of that curtain, doubts might have been raised which I am anxious to dispel." Here his eyes left my face for that of the inspector.

"It certainly had a bad look—that I don't deny; but I did not think of appearances then. I was too anxious to complete a task which had suddenly presented unexpected difficulties. That I listened before entering was very natural, and when I heard no voice, only something like a great sigh, I ventured to lift the curtain and step in. She was sitting, not where I had left her, but on a couch at the left of the usual entrance, her face toward me, and—you know how, inspector. It was her last sigh I had heard. Horrified, for I had never looked on death before, buch less crime, I reeled forward, meaning, I presume, to rush down the steps shouting for help, when, suddenly, something fell splashing on my shirt-front, and I saw myself marked with a stain of blood. This both frightened and bewildered me, and it was a minute or two before I had the courage to look up. When I did do so, I saw whence this drop had come. Not from her, though the red stream was pouring down the rich folds of her dress, but from a sharp needle-like instrument which had been thrust, point downward, in the open work of an antique lantern hanging near the doorway. What had happened to me might have happened to anyone who chanced to be in that spot at that special moment, but I did not realize this then. Covering the splash with my hands, I edged myself back to the door by which I had entered, watching those deathful eyes and crushing under my feet the remnants of some broken china with which the carpet was bestrewn. I had no thought of her, hardly any of myself. To cross the room was all; to escape as secretly as I came, before the portiere so nearly drawn between me and the main hall should stir under the hand of some curious person entering. It was my first sight of blood; my first contact with crime, and that was what I did—I fled."

The last word was uttered with a gasp. Evidently he was greatly affected by this horrible experience.

"I am ashamed of myself," he muttered, "but nothing can now undo the fact. I slid from the presence of this murdered woman as though she had been the victim of my own rage or cupidity; and, being fortunate enough to reach the dressing room before the alarm had spread beyond the immediate vicinity of the alcove, found and put on the handkerchief, which made it possible for me to rush down and find Miss Van Arsdale, who, somebody told me, had fainted. Not till I stood over her in that remote corner beyond the supper-room did I again think of the gloves. What I did when I happened to think of them, you already know. I could have shown no greater cowardice if I had known that the murdered woman's diamond was hidden inside them. Yet, I did not know this, or even suspect it. Nor do I understand, now, her reason for placing it there. Why should Mrs. Fairbrother risk such an invaluable gem to the custody of one she knew so little? An unconscious custody, too? Was she afraid of being murdered if she retained this jewel?"

The inspector thought a moment, and then said:

"You mention your dread of some one entering by the one door before you could escape by the other. Do you refer to the friend you left sitting on the divan opposite?"

"No, my friend had left that seat. The portiere was sufficiently drawn for me to detect that. If I had waited a minute longer," he bitterly added, "I should have found my way open to the regular entrance, and so escaped all this."

"Mr. Durand, you are not obliged to answer any of my questions; but, if you wish, you may tell me whether, at this moment of apprehension, you thought of the danger you ran of being seen from outside by some one of the many coachmen passing by on the driveway?"

"No—I did not even think of the window—I don't know why; but, if any one passing by did see me, I hope they saw enough to substantiate my story."

The inspector made no reply. He seemed to be thinking. I heard afterward that the curtains, looped back in the early evening, had been found hanging at full length over this window by those who first rushed in upon the scene of death. Had he hoped to entrap Mr. Durand into some damaging admission? Or was he merely testing his truth? His expression afforded no clue to his thoughts, and Mr. Durand, noting this, remarked with some dignity:

"I do not expect strangers to accept these explanations, which must sound strange and inadequate in face of the proof I carry of having been with that woman after the fatal weapon struck her heart. But, to one who knows me, and knows me well, I can surely appeal for credence to a tale which I here declare to be as true as if I had sworn to it in a court of justice."

"Anson!" I passionately cried out, loosening my clutch upon my uncle's arm. My confidence in him had returned.

And then, as I noted the inspector's businesslike air, and my uncle's wavering look and unconvinced manner, I felt my heart swell, and, flinging all discretion to the wind, I bounded eagerly forward. Laying my hands in those of Mr. Durand, I cried fervently:

"I believe in you. Nothing but your own words shall ever shake my confidence in your innocence."

The sweet, glad look I received was my best reply. I could leave the room after that.

But not the house. Another experience awaited me, awaited us all, before this full, eventful evening came to a close.

(To Be Continued.)

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Multiplying Rapidly on the Plains of Eastern Colorado.

Railroad men running into Denver on the prairie lines from the east say that antelope are becoming so plentiful in the vicinity of Fort Morgan, Wray, Brush and Akron that herds of from 30 to 50 are no uncommon sight, and many of them have become so tame that they race along the railroad tracks for miles.

The law against the killing of antelope contains a clause allowing their being hunted from Oct. 15 to Oct 25, in 1907, for the first time in several years. During the last few years the antelope have been increasing rapidly. They frequent the neighborhood of the smaller towns and many families in Fort Morgan have captured young antelope and raised them as pets. They have also increased in the south, middle and north parks, although they frequent the prairies more than the mountains.

It is said that the cactus-covered plains in the counties in the eastern part of Colorado furnish the best adapted place in the country for the rearing of the young of the antelope. The young are usually born in a hollow scooped out of the sand by the mother in the midst of a thicket of cactus. In this way the baby antelope are safe from the depredations of prairie wolves and coyotes, who are not able to penetrate the cactus thicket, while the mother can jump over the hedge without injuring herself. The coyotes are only feared by the young antelopes, the older animals being able to protect themselves.

An agitation is now spreading among sportsmen to have the short open season for antelope provided for next year permanent for a week each year. They claim the animals have increased so in the last few years that no injury will be done in a short open season.

A JURY OF HIS PEERS.

"I have been engaged in the practice of law a good many years," said S. S. Urmy, police judge of Topeka, Kan., "and about the most humorous thing I ever saw in a court room was in Topeka.

"One day an old negro man was being tried in the justice court, that was before the office of police judge was created, and he demanded a trial by a jury of his peers. He could neither read nor write, and his lawyer insisted that the jury, to be his peers, as required by law, must be unable to read or write, too. To avoid disputes I agreed to it, but we had a time finding twelve in Topeka who could neither read nor write. But we did find them and the case went to trial.

"Before the jury retired I took two pieces of paper and wrote 'guilty' on one piece and 'not guilty' on the other and instructed the foreman of the jury to destroy the one he did not wish used and to return the other to me when the jury reached a verdict. The jury was out only a few minutes, when it came in. The foreman handed me a piece of paper with the word 'guilty' written on it.

"'Well, gentlemen, you find him guilty, do you?' I asked.

"'No, sah, jedge, no sah, we done found him not guilty,' spoke up one of the jurymen. Then he added with disgust: 'I tole that fool nigger he was tearin' up the wrong piece of paper.'"
—Kansas City Star.

The Sunday School.

GETTING DOWN TO FIRST THINGS.

The International Sunday School Lesson for January 6 is, "God the Creator." Gen. 1:1-25. The Golden Text is, "In the Beginning God Created the Heaven and the Earth." Gen. 1:1.

BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

Simplified spelling is a topic of wide interest, but it is of far less importance than simplified life. This latter has come to be one of the great problems of the day. A certain prophet-financier has attracted international attention by his ringing summons to the western world to return to agriculture, and thus to the simple life. A still better way to reach this desirable goal is implied in the oldest complete piece of literature in the world, which is to form the basis of the study of millions during the ensuing twelve months.

This program is by a grasp of the fundamental facts of life. Let a person get a symmetrical conception of his existence and his end, and he will be ready to slough off, without a pang, the trivialities which encumber civilization. It is because men put their second things first that they find themselves enmeshed in the intricacies of an artificial mode of existence. The powerful people have ever been the plain people who cared supremely for the things that endure. Even in our own hurried, distracted times, there are many who see this. One such was a physician, who said to a worried business man, on the verge of nervous prostration: "My friend, what you really need is to get acquainted with God."

Where the "Up-to-Date" Man Is Blind.

The old, old book of Genesis, which was shaping men's ideals and conduct a thousand years before Herodotus, "the father of history," was born, begins with an affirmation of the incomprehensible fact of God. "In the beginning, God." That is the foundation of the sublime and simple life. There you have the basis of all the creeds of civilization. It is the biggest truth that the mind of man ever tries to grasp. The sublimest characteristic of human nature is its ability to reach up after a knowledge of the sublime.

The men loafing about corner stores may not see this; ability to tell the latest vulgar story may appear to them more manly than an apprehension of the sublimities of religion. But that fact merely indicates that many men are not yet as fully developed as some men were when this old book was penned. Man's interest in the supernatural, and his reverence for God, are the highest known facts concerning humanity. The religious experiences of a single soul have formed the theme of many of the greatest marvels, which is art's tribute to the supremacy of religion. Indeed, there are occasions when everybody rises to a measure of this conception; even the meanest and coarsest spirit, in the hour of adversity, involuntarily turns to God.

There is still a greater truth than the foreging, and it is worthy of the loftiest human effort to apprehend. Man's interest in God is not so vital or important a truth as God's interest in man. God cares for the man He has made. When weary of twiddling the little branches of doctrines, man's spirit may rest against this great central trunk of the tree of religion; God is, and God is solicitous for man's truest welfare. The Creator is also a Father.

The First Fact of All.

The elemental fact of a divine, personal Creator is man's final resort. For the person capable of grasping the significance of great truths, there is comfort and illumination in the simple directness of the first chapter of Genesis, with its affirmation of the existence, the unity, the personality, the creative power and the government of God. The polytheism and pantheism of all other accounts of creation, with their vulgarities and superstition (as witness the Japanese belief in the dishonoring of the sun-goddess by her brother), cause the Genesis narrative to shine in solitary splendor.

Every few months some yellow biologist rushes into print with the assertion that he has caused a wiggle in a bottle of jelly that is nothing less than the creation of new life. The world used to prick up its ears at these astounding statements; it does not do so now, for it has learned that many of these modern scientists, who so cavalierly ask us to accept their jelly intsead of our fathers' Genesis, are just as human as the vain and foolish men whose characters are so faithfully delineated in this oldest book.

This is not the place to go into a discussion of all the theories of creation, and of the authorship and structure of the volume which treats thereof. The bookishly inclined will find ample facilities for studying this fascinating subject. After all has been said, it is amazing to find what little real difference has been made. Into these elastic pages of inspiration there is room to fit countless theories. It is seen that new truth has upset, not the book itself, but only some traditional interpretations thereof. The essential and supreme facts of God's existence, God's creative acts, of man's creation and fall, and of a divine, personal Providence, intimately related to human history, still abide unchanged.

A Glimpse of Genesis.

Among countless characterizations of the Book of Genesis, this one by Prof. A. H. Sayce, the eminent critic and archaeologist, is worth quoting as illustrating and instructive. He says:

"There is a sense in which we may still say that it (Genesis) is the oldest book in the world. The books of Egypt and Babylonia have, for the most part, come down to us in a torn and fragmentary condition. And of those which are complete, there is none that compete in either length or unity of plan with either the Book of Genesis or the Pentateuch as a whole. For the books of Moses have been written in accordance with a definite plan which has been worked out consistently from their beginning to their end. It is just this plan that gives them their literary form and stamps them as the first known example of a literary conception of history. The history contained in them is no bald narrative of facts, no mere ananlistic record or collection of chronicles; it is literary history—history, that is to say, in which the facts have been skillfully fitted into a general scheme and clothed in a literary dress.

"From one point of view, indeed, we may see in the Book of Genesis a philosophy of history, in which the events recorded are used to illustrate the doctrine that not only has the world and its inhabitans been created by the one true God, but that it is also governed by a process of divine selection. There has been development and progress in its history, not through the blind working of natural selection, but through the intervention of that divine Creator from whom man derives the breath of life, and who first fixed the lines that divide nation from nation and race from race. It is He who has stamped upon each race and community its individual character, selecting and setting apart from among the chosen people who should be the bearers of His message to the soul and conscience of man.

"First the line of Seth, and then that of Shem, narrowing into the family of Abraham, and eventually into the descendants of the younger son of Isaac, is shown to have been the human instrument of the divine purpose. For the history of which the Book of Genesis traces the development is a history of progress in spiritual and moral enlightenment rather than in art or mechanical science. Civilization is regarded on its religious not on its artistic and economical side. For the history of art and mechanical invention we must turn to other nations than the Israelites, other books than those of Moses; the art and invention form, indeed, part of the culture which is presupposed by the religious history of mankind, but it is the religion of civilized man, rather than the other elements in his culture, which the author of the Pentateuch has primarily in view. The philosophy of history embodied in the Book of Genesis has for its foundation and starting point God's revelation of Himself to the world of men."

Dr. Marcus Dods tersely says that Genesis "was not meant to be a revelation of nature, but a revelation of God, and the ideas regarding God which it conveys are just and weighty."

The How and the Who.

Doubtless many teachers of this story of first things will waste their opportunity by struggling with the how and who of creation; and with trying to explain the six literal days, when "science says this planet has been about one hundred million of years getting into shape and reaching its present condition." The wiser way would be to dwell upon the one vital truth which the narrative itself throws into high relief, namely, that God, the personal Jehovah, is the supreme Creator. This is what counts; it alone affects the moral life of the student.

Concerning the relation of geology to Genesis, this quotation from Dods is pertinent: "We have thus two histories covering somewhat the same period. . . . We have this brief sketch in the first chapter of Genesis, which can be read and may have been written in a few minutes; and we have the record which has been slowly graven on the crust of the earth during many hundreds of thousands of years. Both are from God—the facts registered by the rocks are as infallible as anything recorded in Scripture; they are sacred as God's own writing, which has come from His hand without the intervention of any human pen. Either record may be misinterpreted. The man of science may fail to read aright the facts before his eyes; he may omit to see what is actually there, or may group his facts in a mistaken manner, and deduct conclusions that are unwarranted. The interpreter of Scripture may misunderstand the record he takes to do with, and from the infallible word of God may deduct meanings and draw inferences which are as fallible as his own ignorance and prejudice. But in neither case is the record to be blamed.

"The greatest mistake of all is when men seek in the one record for what can only be found in the other; when they go to the Bible for science, or rely upon nature for a full knowledge of God's purposes; when they either on the one hand refuse to listen to the affirmations of nature because they seem to disagree with what is found in the Bible, or when, on the other hand, they are content with the teaching of nature, as if nature could tell us all we need to know about ourselves, about the world, and about God. The proper attitude towards the two records has been defined by one (Leconte) who has himself keenly studied both, who is at once a professor of geology and an eminent Christian apologist. 'If the question,' he says, 'be a question in physical science, if the subject be one which is clearly revealed in nature, then, without hesitation, I would follow the teachings of nature, even though some scriptural allusions to natural phenomena by our traditional interpretation may seem to teach differently. And I believe I honor the author of both books by so doing. But if the question be a question of moral and spiritual truth, and the teachings of Scripture are clear and unmistakable, then I follow the Divine textbook of moral and spiritual truth in spite of some dim intimations in external nature, and in my own intuitions which seem to point to a different conclusion. And I think I honor 'the Author of both books by so doing.'

"Or, to use the words of a still abler writer (Quarry): 'There is a principle frequently insisted on, scarcely denied by any yet recognized with sufficient clearness by few of the advocates of revelation, which, if fully and practically recognized, would have saved themselves much perplexity and vexation, and the cause they have at heart the disgrace with which it has been covered by the futile attempts that have been made through provisional and shifting interpretations to reconcile the Mosaic Genesis with the rapidly advancing strides of physical science. The principle referred to is this: Matters which are discoverable by human reason, and the means of investigation which God has put within the reach of man's faculties, are not the proper subjects of Divine revelation, and matters which do not concern morals, or bear on man's spiritual relations towards God, are not within the province of revealed religion.'"

AFTER

You Are Well From Rheumatism
Will You Pay Your Banker $10?

Not a cent in advance—not a penny, remember, until you, yourself, can freely and unhesitatingly say, "I am well again!"

Should you begin the treatment, I will let your Banker or Express Agent hold the money.

Will you under such conditions, to be completely and entirely free from Rheumatism, expend $10.00? That is what I now promise Rheumatics. My boundless, never-ending faith in Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy has led me to make and fulfill this remarkable offer. Positively no physician, anywhere, has ever before said, "I will Cure Rheumatism, else make no charge."

I want to get—and must in some way get, everybody, everywhere, to fully and completely understand what I myself now absolutely know, about this unsurpassed prescription. The remedy is surely remarkable—then why not the offer? Every Druggist nearly, in America, whether located in hamlet or city, has been, and is now freely selling at $1.00 per bottle, Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy. And yet, strange to say, not one sufferer perhaps in a hundred, even knows as yet of the remedy and its power to battle against pain. To stir, to awaken these unknowing ones, to spread the knowledge of what this prescription can do, I shall broadly publish this offer, these facts, unrestricted and everywhere. Having no fear of the final outcome. I shall unhesitatingly tell of my plan to all.

Reader, you that are well and happy, do an act of humanity. Tell some tortured and suffering one that there is yet one way to health—one way entirely free from risk, or of money loss.

For a complete cure I charge $10.00, for I must strike a fair-to-all average price. It is true that many will be cured with a bottle or two of my remedy, but chronic, exceedingly deep-seated and difficult cases, may require ten; twenty, or even a greater number. He, I believe, who has actually suffered the pangs of real Rheumatism, will hardly complain of the price when cured, because perchance, but two or three bottles are needed in his particular case.

But to secure this "No Cure, No Pay" privilege, you must write me personally. Simply address Dr. Shoop, Contract B, Racine, Wis. Box 9528.

Do not trouble your druggist, please, about this plan. He has no authority, nor will he furnish my medicine, except to sell it at retail, bottle by bottle. Write me instead today for my "Contract B" agreement. I will also send my Book on Rheumatism free, or if you please, medical advice and book on other diseases.

Which book shall I send you?

Book 1 on Dyspepsia.
Book 2 on the Heart.
Book 3 the Kidneys.
Book 4 For Women.

Remember, for Rheumatism use

Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy

USED SAW ON RHINOCEROS

Skillful Keeper Able to Dehorn the Savage Brute Easily.

There is an old story about a man who had to have his arm amputated and began by cutting off his fingers and then his hand in order to get used to it before undertaking the larger job, says the Youth's Companion. It does not sound historically accurate and may have grown up from a tale narrated by Richard Bell about a rhinoceros which was "broken in" to having its horn sawed off.

This animal, which lived in the London zoo, was troubled by its horn, which grew down in front of its mouth so that only with difficulty could it eat or drink. To save its life the keeper decided on amputation.

The horn of a rhinoceros is not a horn at all but an accumulation of hair and skin which has hardened and become cemented together by some gummy substance. The owner of this one had a touchy temper and was not easily approached. Its keeper, however, decided to try what he could do.

For some days it required all his skill to persuade the beast to come to the front of the cage and put its horn through. Then for some days he stroked the horn—much to the animal's disgust at first, although later it seemed to like it. When it found he meant no harm to him it let him take the horn in his left hand and then with the right imitate the motion of a saw across it.

When this had been done some time and the rhinoceros no longer minded it a piece of wood was held in the right hand and at last when even this no longer worried the animal a real saw was brought in and the horn cut off—without the slightest remonstrance from the owner of it.

ACCOUNTING FOR THE PEARL

Three principal hypotheses have been offered to account for the origin of pearls. According to one they arise from secretions caused by the presence of some foreign object, such as a grain of sand, within the shell of the oyster. But it has been shown that fine pearls are not thus produced.

Another theory is that pearls are the result of disease in the oyster. The third hypothesis, sustained by M. Seurat of the Oceanographic museum of Monaco, is that the origin of pearls is to be ascribed to the presence of a parasite. The species of parasite differs with the species of oyster, but this mode of origin, M. Seurat believes, is general with al fine pearls.

To restore the luster of a "dead" pearl the outer tarnished envelope may be removed with acids. Thus the effect produced upon a tarnished pearl by causing a fowl to swallow it is accounted for by the dissolvent action of the gastric juice.

The Farmstead

Questions for Answers.

The following questions are submitted to readers to answer. We do this in the hope of getting the results of actual and successful experience, which will be the most valuable answers possible:

I am contemplating building a house for a tenant, and wish to learn if it is possible to set up studding every two feet, except where doors and windows are wanted, and then fill the spaces between with cement; then, after the cement is sufficiently hardened, take off the boxing and put on a smooth, hard finish tinted to suit both inside and out, thus saving the cost of lath and other lumber. Sand and cement are cheap here and lumber is high. I wish someone who knows would advise me in this matter.—A., Cattaraugus, N. Y.

Our women are scolding terribly because it takes so long to churn. Will somebody please explain and offer a remedy? Cow is fed on alfalfa and gets the slops from the house, because we have no pig. She is a young and healthy cow, and gives rich milk. Please come to our relief. H., Ashland, Ore.

For the Deaf Dog.

Someone recently asked what to do for his deaf dog. If he will set a dish of lard where it will have the hot sun so as to bring the oil on top, then carefully drain the oil into a granite pan, say four tablespoonfuls to six peach kernels, fry the kernels in the lard oil, remove from the fire and strain through sieve, put in a large-necked vaseline bottle and when cool enough put a dram in his ear from an ear syringe. No doubt this seems of no avail, but it removed a ball of wax from my own ear that was the cause of my being hard of hearing at times.—R., Timewell, Ill.

Alfalfa Experience.

K., Montgomery, Mich.: I sowed 40 pounds of alfalfa seed on the 17th of April on 2½ acres of sandy, cornstubble land that had been plowed and harrowed; sowed broadcast by hand. It did well. My neighbor sowed 20 pounds to the acre, May 1, on growing wheat, and it did well. In the vicinity of Dayton, O., alfalfa is sown with the wheat, like any grass seed, and does well. Loose, ashy ground should be rolled after sowing. Always cut when one-fifth is in bloom, and cut any time when grass seems to smother it.—B., Addison, O.

Corn Meal for Young Pigs.

An experiment conducted by Prof. W. A. Henry, of the Wisconsin experiment station, indicates that, contrary to the general supposition, there is one advantage in grinding corn to feed pigs or fattening hogs. This experiment is summarized as follows:

"While whole corn was compared with the same corn ground, using two lots of four pigs averaging 126 pounds and two lots of three pigs each averaging 83 pounds in weight. In the ten weeks of the test the total gain of the older pigs fed shelled corn was 208 pounds, and of the young pigs 60 of gain in the two cases being 5.72 pounds and 8.2 pounds. So far as these trials are concerned, it was shown that in both cases there was a waste of food by reducing the corn to meal by grinding.

"Maturing hogs under confinement will show large gains for several weeks on the exclusive corn diet, but such gains are not long continued. Young growing pigs must build up bone and muscle if they are to increase materially in weight and grow normally; they cannot secure from the corn grain the necessary food elements for the body structure, and hence nature soon turned awry, protests against the food by showing poor appetites, lack of gain and other evidences of unthrift and malnutrition.

The results plainly show that corn either ground or whole, should not be used exclusively with pigs or young hogs. So far as they are of any value otherwise, they show a positive disadvantage following the grinding of the corn to meal. So disastrous were the results that it is doubtful if we are warranted in continuing such experiments with pigs."

Forced Rhubarb and Asparagus.

Would you enjoy a dish of asparagus or rhubarb, before the outdoor crops are ready? Dig up the roots in December, and put them in boxes, where they may be stored away in the cellar or other cool, dark place. These roots can be forced in December and January in cold frames (using manure to give the necessary heat), under the greenhouse benches, or in a heated cellar, where they can be kept moist. It is considered better to let the roots get one good frost before forcing is begun. Select strong roots, preferably three or four years old.

Unless the frames are ventilated from time to time, mildew will surely attack the growing plants. Whenever the air is above freezing temperature, uncover the lights and ventilate by fixing the sash open with a block. Raise it six inches on a very warm day. A piece of wood 2x4x6 inches is a handy adjunct to a frame.

Have some hay piled in a convenient place ready for throwing over the frames during extra cold weather. At other times the mats and shutters will be sufficient.

Make shutters for the frames at once. The right size for convenient handling is 3x6 feet. These are to be put over the mats, which they protect. The snow can be shoveled off the shutters much more easily than from the mats.—From the Garden Magazine for December.

Combating the Peach Borer.

I have never yet seen any method practiced that will keep the peach borer from getting into the tree to some extent at least. From observation and practice I think the most successful method is to worm late in the fall when most of the worms can be caught before they have gotten under the bark and when the injury done is very little. If freezing weather prevents doing this in November or about Dec. 1, then worm in early spring. Remove the earth from around the trunk and it can soon be seen whether any borers are about by the deposit of wax and chips. If there is none and the bark is smooth no time need be lost in looking for the worms.

If evidence of their presence exists, remove the wax carefully, as the borer will sometimes be removed with it if it is young and has not yet eaten through the bark. If it has gotten under the bark go after it carefully with a sharp pointed, crooked iron on a handle and do no more injury to the tree than the borer would if allowed to remain. To insure a good job allow the tree to remain open several days and then go over them again when any missed can be easily detected. Then place a pint to a quart of ground tobacco around the trunk, according to the size of the tree. With the earth placed over it this will be a preventive for the next season.

Some growers advocate washing the trunks in the spring to prevent the adults from laying their eggs thereon, but as the adults are coming out of their cocoons, winged and ready for flight from May to September it would take repeated application to be effective through the whole season. I believe it to be an advantage to mound the earth around the trees several inches as the worm can be gotten much more easily and will be kept from getting down among the roots where they can seldom be reached. There has been much loss from the borer in this section where orchardists have neglected to look after them. Especially is this true in young orchards.—American Agriculturist.

Vitality of Seeds.

The persistent vitality of seeds has often been noted, and, while there is some doubt as to the reliability of reports of wheat taken from Egyptian graves of ancient date germinating wheat planted, many notable, if less wonderful, examples of nature's preservation of the life of seeds come to life from time to time. One of the most noteworthy of these refers to seeds taken from Fort Conger, about 490 miles from the pole, by the Peary party in 1899, having been exposed in this northern climate for a period of sixteen years, their presence there being the result of the Greely expedition of 1883. Packages of lettuce and radish seeds were brought to the United States, and, after a further period of six years, were planted, and, while the lettuce seed had lost its vitality, fully one-half of the radish seeds germinated and grew to maturity and perfection.

The Model Farm Idea.

In an artile in the current number of the Century, James J. Hill, president of the Great Northern, elaborates his views upon the need of improved methods of farming in this country. Mr. Hill advocates the establishment of numerous model farms, 30 to 40 acres in size.

"For less than a single item in many of the annual appropriation bills," he says, "a model farm, conducted as a practical object lesson in the best methods of tilling the soil and its most profitable uses, might be established in every agricultural county in the United States. It is worth considering whether this work should not be undertaken by the several state governments or by the national government, or by the two conjointly."

Mr. Hill is undoubtedly correct in his idea that American farms are not as productive as they should be. In this, as in nearly every other country, the tendency of the farming communities is toward ultraconservatism. In politics, under normal conditions, the American farmer is a conservative—and for this the republic has cause to be duly thankful. But in his farming methods he sometimes carries conservatism into the ground. Frequently, with a soil that has been worked for several generations, he persists in following the same farming methods which gave excellent results to his forefathers in an untouched farming country. But conditions are very different today from what they were a century ago. The early settlers in the Ohio valley, for instance, had no need to study the question of a proper rotation of crops; their land yielded big crops for a number of years under the most primitive sort of treatment. But the modern successors of the early settlers must pay very much more attention to the careful handling of the soil if gradually diminishing returns are not to be their portion.

Many American farmers, of course, get excellent results from their land. So far as the average, from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Canadian line to the gulf and the Rio Grande is concerned, however, the yield of wheat and corn and oats per acre in this country is not what it should be. The average yield of wheat per acre in western Canada last year, for instance, ran from 30 to 100 per cent greater than in the United States. This difference was, of course, partially due to the Canadian advantage of a great body of rich virgin soil, but the difference in results was too great to be entirely accounted for by this fact.

Agriculture is still Uncle Sam's biggest business. He cannot afford to permanently lag behind in his farming methods when a little extra study would bring greatly increased crops from his broad acres.—Cincinnati Times-Star.

Grazing Fees on Reserves.

A recent decision of a federal judge has been widely commented upon throughout the West on the supposition that it declared illegal the regulation of grazing on forest reserves and the system of charging for grazing permits. As a matter of fact, the decision, which was handed down by Judge Whitson, of the United States district court for eastern Washington, in the case of the United States vs. Matthews, has no bearing whatever upon the legality of the grazing regulations or of grazing fees, which stand precisely as before. The legal question involved was simply this: Does the law authorizing the secretary of agriculture to issue regulations make the breach of those regulations a crime?

Judge Whitson's decision merely answered this question "No." It was in substance that the objection to the indictment against Walter Matthews was the absence of a law defining the act therein charged as a criminal offense. Upon that ground the court held that the demurrer must be sustained and the defendant discharged.

Though the point was simple and clear enough, it was entirely misconstrued in the press reports of the decision and in editorial comments upon it. For instance, in the Wyoming Tribune of Tuesday, November 6, news of Judge Whitson's action was given under the headlines: "Grazing Fees Illegal Decides Federal Judge," and the article declares that "As a result of the decision, Matthews, who entered the Mount Rainier Forest Reserve without the permit required by the secretary, is still using the reserve and is not paying the fee imposed by the secretary." As a matter of fact, Mr. Matthews' sheep were immediately removed upon notice by the forest officers and have not since entered the reserve.

In the Sheridan, Wyo., Post it is said: "A decision fraught with importance to Wyoming stockmen is that appearing in this issue, wherein it is held by the United States district court that the collection of fees for grazing live stock is illegal. * * * Since its imposition this fee has been regarded as illegal and arbitrary by many well-informed Wyoming people, and the views expressed by the court in this decision meet with general approval here. * * * The litigant is still running his sheep on the Rainier reserve without paying the fees."

Decisions like Judge Whitson's had before been made by the federal courts in three other districts, one of them six years ago, but none of these interferes in the slightest with the right of the United States to institute civil action against trespassers violating the grazing regulations, or with chrging the grazing fee. The United States circuit court of appeals for the ninth circuit decided definitely, in the case of Dastervignes vs. United States, that the provisions of the act of March 4, 1897, delegating to the secretary the power to make regulations, is constitutional, pasturing of sheep on forest reserves without a permit is valid, and that the federal courts will enforce regulation by injunction. The supreme court of Arizona, three judges sitting, in the case of Dent vs. United States (76 Pacific Reporter, 445), went still further, under circumstances which made the decision most emphatic. Dent was criminally prosecuted for grazing sheep on a forest reserve without a permit, in violation of the regulations, and the court had held that his act was not a crime; but as soon as the Dastervignes case was decided for the government the Arizona court granted a rehearing of the Dent case and held that the Dastervignes decision was binding on all courts in the ninth circuit in criminal as well as civil cases, and that Dent was therefore guilty of a crime.

So far, therefore, the court decisions as to the criminality of trespass contrary to the forest reserve regulations are conflicting. Final adjudication of the point can not be had until the ruling of a higher court has been secured; but no court has questioned the right of the secretary of agriculture to make regulations and to recover damages for trespass through civil action.

Grazing trespassers will be restrained from violation of the regulations by injunction proceedings and sued for civil damages until the higher courts shall have reached a decision as to the criminal character of such trespasses. The forest service will continue to exclude unpermitted stock from all forest reserves and to collect grazing fees for all stock under permit.

CRIED EASILY

Nervous Woman Stopped Coffee and Quit Other Things.

No better practical proof that coffee is a drug can be required than to note how the nerves become unstrung in women who habitually drink it.

The stomach, too, rebels at being continually drugged with coffee and tea—they both contain the drug—caffeine. Ask your doctor.

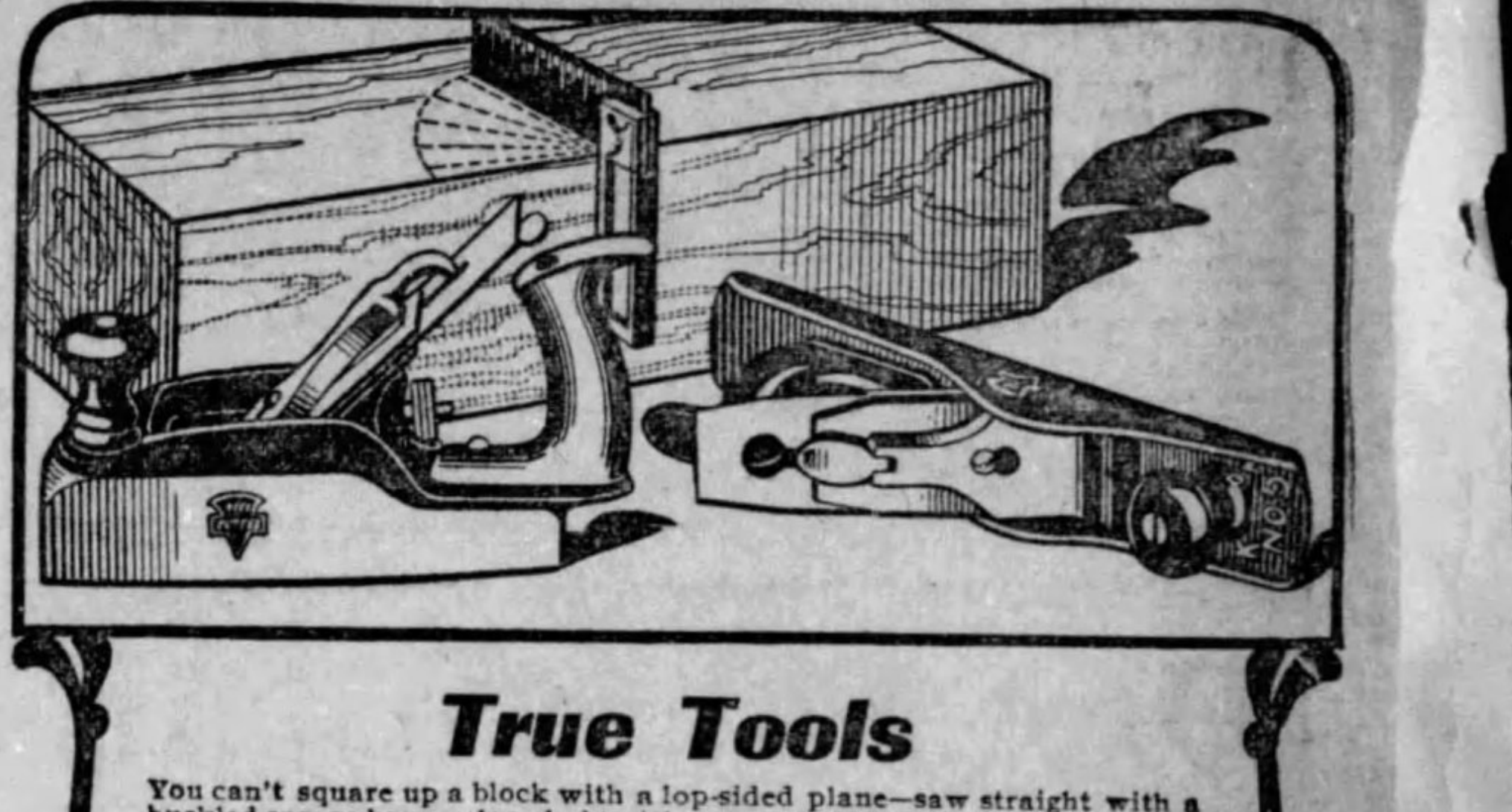
An Ia. woman tells the old story thus: "I had used coffee for six years and was troubled with headaches, nervousness and dizziness. In the morning upon rising I used to belch up a sour fluid regularly.

"Often I got so nervous and miserable I would cry without the least reason, and I noticed my eyesight was getting poor.

"After using Postum a while, I observed the headaches left me and soon the belching of sour fluid stopped (water brash from dyspepsia.) I feel decidedly different now, and I am convinced that it is because I stopped coffee and began to use Postum. I can see better now, my eyes are stronger.

"A friend of mine did not like Postum but when I told her to make it like it said on the package, she liked it all right." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Always boil Postum well and it will surprise you.

Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville" in pkg. "There's a reason."



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NO OVERCOATS IN ALASKA

Army Officer Says It Is Not Safe to Wear Them There.

"You do not find anyone wearing overcoats in Alaska, even in the winter," said Major F. M. M. Beall, who is at the New Howard, after having recently returned from that territory.

"The principal thing to be careful about is keeping the head, hands and feet warm. In that part of Alaska where I have been the only land transportation is by dog sleds, and to follow them one has to drop into a dog trot beside the sled.

"An ordinary suit is plenty thick enough to keep you warm, and an overcoat is dangerous in that temperature. Trotting alongside a sled wearing an overcoat would make you perspire and the bitter cold would freeze the perspiration.

"The men there wear a fur cap that covers every part of the head and face except the eyes and there is only a small peephole for them. Wool-lined mitts are worn on the hands and moccasins with woolen stockings on the feet."

Major Beall has been three years in Alaska, commanding Fort Gibbon, the garrison consisting of two companies of the Third United States infantry. He is now on leave of absence.

"Fort Gibbon is 900 miles up the Yukon river and 75 miles south of the arctic circle," he said, "and the river is frozen up most of the year. In that time dog sleds are used, but when the river opens steamers come up frequently. Sometimes the rough characters traveling around the country take possession of a river steamer, and it is part of our work to restore order and recapture the steamer.

"The chief work of the soldiers at Fort Gibbon is to keep the telegraph lines going."—Baltimore Sun.

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HINDU LABOR IS CHEAP

They Might Be Employed to Dig the Panama Canal.

"Why not dig the Panama ditch with Hindu labor?" an expert upon labor in various lands recently asked. "A number of Punjab Mohammedans, big, sturdy-looking men, have recently arrived in British Columbia in the search for work at wages which to them are high, but which, as we regard them here, are small. They are not wanted by the Canadians, however.

The Hindu laborer is, as a rule, intelligent and capable and would be well adapted to the climate of Panama. There is a great deal of discontent in India at the present time owing to the small wages paid to laborers and they would welcome any opportunity for foreign employment. The average wage there is $3 to $4 a month. In the gardens of Assam they can earn but $1.63 to $1.98 a month, the last figures being the amount paid after four years' service.

"It is not surprising, therefore, that large numbers of coolies should leave the country. Indeed, they are leaving in such numbers that the matter is receiving the serious consideration of the Indian government. Many have gone to Natal, where they earn from $30 to $35 a month. From all accounts they are most satisfactory workmen. And another point in their favor is that nowhere, it seems, does the same prejudice exist against them as against Chinese coolies."
—New York Times.

HAD THE RECTOR RUNNING MAD

A good many years ago when metropolitan dailies were not run so well as they are now, ridiculous typographical mistakes happened frequently.

One of the papers had two separate articles, one on a sermon and the other on a mad dog, which were, of course, to go under different headings. In some way both were set up together. In the morning the editor was horrified to see the following article:

"The Rev. James Thompson, rector of St. Andrew's church, preached to a large concourse of people Sunday. This was his last sermon. In a few weeks he will bid farewell to his congregation, as his physician has advised him to cross the Atlantic. He exhorted his brethren and sisters, and after offering a devout prayer (here is where the articles ran together) took a whim to cut up some frantic freaks. He ran up Timothy street to Johnson, and down Benefit street to College. At this stage of the proceedings a couple of boys seized him, tied a tin kettle to his tail, and he again started. A great crowd collected, and after some trouble he was shot by a policeman."

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We will send you our great farm paper absolutely free for a whole year if you will do us a small favor. Just send us names and addresses of five good farmers and enclose two-cent stamp. The Valley Farmer is a handsomely printed farm journal, established fifteen years, edited by the ablest agricultural writers of the country, published on its own $20,000 rotary magazine press by the largest publishing house in the West, and read by over a quarter of a million people, its circulation reaching every state in the Union. Address with stamp Valley Farmer, 590 Jackson street, Topeka, Kan.

QUESTION BUREAU ?

LES—1.—Your real name and post-
address must be on the sheet with
uestion. Initials will not do. 2.—
only one question; that is, there
be several questions on the same
ct, but not different subjects. 3.—
ditor of the Bureau is not allowed
ve the address of any person or
nor answer as to the reliability of
person or firm, nor to tell where
can buy anything or sell anything
hing in the way of free advertis-
4.—We reserve the right to decline
swer any question not of general
est to a majority of our readers.
e will not answer any questions
ligious topics — no questions in-
g dogma or doctrine, or of Bib-
interpretation; no prices of old
or stamps; no arithmetical or
matical questions. 6.—Don't ask
s by mail. If a question is of gen-
interest to our readers, we will re-
print, but never by mail.

dition.

tor Question Bureau: Please ex-
requisition and extradition laws
; in fact, so fully that a simple-
ed person may understand.—O. B.,
Mich.

quisition is simply the formal de-
d by the chief executive of one gov-
nent or state on another for the sur-
er of a fugitive from justice. Extra-
n is the surrender of a criminal who
escaped from a territory under one
rnment and taken refuge in a ter-
y under another government. In the
ed States extradition has two sep-
e meanings. In the first place it re-
to the surrender by one state gov-
nent of a criminal who seeks a place
iding from another state of the union
which he is held to be guilty of a
e. In the second place it refers to
surrender of a prisoner by one na-
to another. The demand for extra-
on made by one nation of another is
atter of international law. In order
justify a claim for extradition, it is
essary to establish that the supreme
itical authority in the country where
crime has been committed has made
demand for the criminal's surrender;
t an inquiry has been made into the
ts of the case by a judge or United
tes commissioner, under direction of
President, in cases where the de-
nd comes to the United States gov-
nment from abroad; that a complaint
made on oath before the judge or com-
ssioner; that a warrant be issued by
judge or commissioner for the ap-
hension of the party charged; that
charge be supported by suitable evi-
nce; that a certificate be sent to the
esident of the United States, signed by
commissioner, and stating that the
rges are sufficiently well grounded to
rant a surrender; that the certificate
satisfy the President that he grant the
t of surrender.

oming.

ditor Question Bureau: Please tell us
space will permit of the state of Wy-
ing. Is it a good state for trappers?
ave a big dog and a smaller one, and
m very much interested in hunting.
ase tell what kind of game abounds
re. Are there any large forests? How
ut homestead lands? What kind of
ber is found in the state?—J. A.,
nther, W. Va.

he elevation of Wyoming averages
m 5,000 to 7,000 feet above sea level,
l it is traversed by the main chains
spurs of the Rocky mountain ranges.
om the plateau lands rise a number
lofty ranges and peaks, the summits
which are from 8,000 to nearly 14,000
t above the sea. The largest moun-
n masses or groups of mountains are
the southeastern and northwestern
rts of the state. In the northeast is
isolated group called the Black Hills,
portion of which extends into South
kota. In the southwest and along the
uthern border are the Sierra Madre,
urs of the Uintah mountains, several
ttes, and a number of low mountain
ges. Some of the most prominent
vations in the state are Fremont,
ow-capped all the year, and nearly 14,-
feet; Sheridan, Atlantic, Grand Teton,
rris and Union. The Continental Di-
e crosses the state from the middle
the southern boundary to the north-
stern corner, extending through the
llowstone National Park. The princi-
l plains are Laramie, in the southeast;
Platte and Cheyenne plains, in the
st, which extend west to near the cen-
l part of the state, and Red Desert,
the southwest. The great natural cur-
sity of the state is the region included
and adjacent to the Yellowstone Park.
he state is noted for being the source
many of the head streams of the three
eat river systems of the United States.
ississippi, Columbia and Colorado. The
rgest lakes are the Yellowstone, Jack-
n and Shoshone, all in the northwest.
here are many small lakes amid the
ountains, bodies of clear water sur-
unded by wooded mountain regions of
reat beauty. Wyoming has gold, silver,
d most of the valuable minerals found
the Rocky mountain region.

In Wyoming extremes of temperature
xist for a short period each year. The
ecords show the maximum 116 degrees
ove zero and the minimum 44 degrees
elow zero, but those extremes are rare.
he extreme cold is not severe on ac-
unt of the dryness. The greatest
mount of rainfall is between March and
une; the snowfall is light, and to in-
re crops in all the productive localities,
cept along the rivers, irrigation is nec-
sary. The state is remarkably free
m all conditions that tend to unhealth-
ness, especially malaria and kindred
eases. The soil of nearly all the river
lleys is a dark loam, and most fertile.
the higher lands and the lower moun-
n slopes there is a sandy loam, some
which is productive, but irrigation is
essary. In the Red Desert of the
thwest the saline deposits have ren-
ed the soil almost unfit to support any
t the lowest forms of vegetation. The
getation common to the Rocky moun-
n region is found here; the low shrubs,
e grasses suitable for pasturage, on
e foothills and lower slopes, fir, spruce,
emlock, pine, aspen, walnut, elm, ash,
x-elder, red cedar, and along the
reams, in places, cottonwood and wil-
w. The wooded districts of the state
ver only about 13 per cent of the en-
e area, or about 12,500 square miles. Of
is timbered part of the state, 3,500
uare miles are located within the
undaries of the Yellowstone National
rk, and 5,207 square miles within the
ited States reserves. Yellow pine is
und on the lower slopes of the Big
orn and Medicine Bow mountains, and
uth of the Yellowstone Park. Consid-
able timber has been taken from the
rest districts and has been found very
luable for various purposes. The an-
als found wild throughout the state
e the black and grizzly bear, wolf,
irie wolf, badger, wolverine, otter,
cupine, mink, civet, ermine, elk, deer,
elope, prairie dog, rabbit and wild
ds.

In 1900 there were 8,124,536 acres of
rm lands in Wyoming, of which 792,332
re cultivated for grains and vegetables.
ass grows in large portions of the
te in fairly good quantities, particu-
y along the streams and where the
s are irrigated. Timothy and alfalfa
cultivated. It is estimated that near-
half the state is suitable for grazing.
native grasses cure naturally, stand-
g on the ground, without harvesting, on
ccount of the dry climate. Near the
able lands are streams that can be
ed for irrigation. One canal fed by
Big Sandy river irrigates 270,000 acres.
e reports of the United States geo-
phical survey give as the number of
es that may be reclaimed by irriga-
n 15,000,000. Northern Wyoming is a
ttle and sheep raising region. The
k raised is of more value than the
ricultural products. There are in the
te 258,151,044 acres of surveyed land
ant and subject to entry and settle-
nt.

umenical Councils.

ditor Question Bureau: Will you
ase state briefly the historical facts in
ard to the Council of Nice, respecting
dogma of the Son of God? Also the
uncil of Constantinople in regard to
Holy Ghost; also the Councils of
hesus and Chalcedon, with reference to
divine and human nature of Christ.

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ere located, and it is very interesting work. If
can do little writing for us, send your address
postal for full particulars and see how profit-
it is. Do it now before someone else gets the
tion in your locality. Address,
B. Mills Co., Seedsmen, Rose Hill, N. Y.

FOUND DEAD IN BED!

Mr. John C. Harris, a prosperous young farmer of Chambersburg, N. Y., went to bed last Thursday night feeling as well as usual. Next morning his wife found him dead in bed beside her! Was it murder? Yes and no. No, because he died from so-called natural causes—yes, because for months he'd known that he had heart disease, and that sudden death might come from the least over-exertion, or by sleeping on his left side, and this last proved too true! And yet this bright, intelligent young man, with everything to live for, wouldn't listen to reason—either to his doctor or to the earnest pleadings of his wife to do something. "It don't amount to anything," he'd say, "only a little palpitation. It's my stomach, I think. It will go away of itself." But delay cost his life! Was not this self-murder?

This case is only one; sixty thousand people die yearly of Heart Disease! Six in every ten have it. Many don't know it, they think it's something else and doctor the stomach, kidneys, female organs, etc., and get no better; and a good many who do know think it can't be cured. Now Heart Disease is just as curable as any other disease; we have proved this fully by curing over a hundred and thirty thousand cases! Many of these were the most chronic, serious, complicated kind, in which all other remedies and doctors had failed, and hope seemed gone, but our treatment cured them quickly and to stay cured! In very many cases of Heart Disease the Nerves and Stomach are affected also, and in such it is useless to treat the heart alone, and one reason why our treatment cures is because it sets the stomach right, removes constipation, steadies and revitalizes the nerves and builds up the whole system, besides strengthening, controlling and curing the heart. We can cupre YOU! no matter how bad off, and to prove it we will send you by mail, postpaid, without any conditions, without any restrictions, and without any cost, a regular full-size treatment of Dr. Fuller's Heart and Nerve Cure, and his illustrated book with which you will know your own case as well as any doctor. Both are free.

Understand this is not a "sample" or "trial," but a regular full size treatment. Neither is it a C. O. D. scheme or anything of the kind, nothing but a fair, square chance for you to fully test this grand treatment for yourself, in your own home, without cost. If you have one of the symptoms, Nervousness, Trembling, Twitching or Nightmare, Palpitation, Fluttering or Skipping Beats of the heart, Short Breath, Fainting, Smothering, Choking, Numb or Sinking Spells, Dizziness, Nose-bleed, Swelling Legs, Asthma, Pain in Heart, Side or Shoulder-blade, your heart and nerves are surely wrong! Don't wait, but send now for the full free treatment and get well. Address The Heart Cure Co., 331 Masonic Building, Hallowell, Maine.

Did the councils of Ephesus, A. D. 431 disagree?—M. D. C., Corry, Pa.

The Council of Nice declared it to be and to have ever been the teaching of the church Catholic, in conformity with the apostolic tradition in all the churches, that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is "consubstantial"—or the same substance or nature—with the Father.

The Council of Constantinople defined the creed of the church as opposed to the heresy of Arius and kindred heresies growing out of it, among them the heresy of Macedonius who denied the godhead of the Holy Spirit; hence to the creed called of Nicaea this council added the clause, "and in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and life-giver who proceedeth from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is together worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets." Not till a later date was added "and the Son" to declare the procession of the Spirit from the Son also.

The Council of Ephesus was the third general council of the Roman Catholic church, held at Ephesus 431, principally to oppose the heresy of Nestorius, patriarch of Constantinople. It was convoked by the Emperor Theodosius II at the instance of Pope Celestine I and many Catholic bishops. Cyril, bishop of Alexandria, presided on behalf of Pope Celestine I. The number of bishops in the council was about 200. Nestorius, adopting the teaching of Theodorus of Mopsuetia, denied the church's doctrine of the incarnation, and held that instead of the Word being made man, he (the Word) simply had his special abode in the man Jesus Christ; and hence Mary the Virgin was not God-bearing, mother of God, but only mother of the Christ. The Council declared that Mary is "Deiapra," and that Jesus Christ is God and man. Another council was held at Ephesus—the "robber synod," as it is called—in 449 convoked by the same emperor to deal with questions of faith connected with the teachings of Theodorus and Nestorius. The presiding bishop, Dioscuros of Alexandria, backed by a rabble of monks, soldiers and servants, overawed the 135 bishops, compelling them to sign blank papers on which he wrote what decrees he pleased.

In 451, at Chalcedon, Marcian, the emperor of the East, held the fourth general council for the purpose of destroying the ascendancy of the Monophysite doctrines obtained in 449 by the influence of the Alexandrian patriarch Dioscuros at the so-called "robber synod," and define the Christian faith so as to guard its orthodoxy against the Nestorian and Monophysite heresies. This council, which consisted of 600 bishops, mostly of the East, deposed Dioscuros, and after violent debates the articles of faith settled by them declared, in opposition to the Monophysites, the belief of two natures in Christ, existing without mixture or change, without division or separation, so that by the union of the two natures in one person and substance their distinction is not destroyed, but the characteristics of each are retained.

Pipe Clay.

Editor Question Bureau: In the wholesale druggists' price lists to retailers we find "pipe clay, 10cs lb." What is pipe clay, what is it composed of, what is it used for, and how manufactured?—C. F. B., Beulah, Mich.

Pipe clay is a mineral, and comes to the trade in a powdered form and is used for cleaning and polishing shoes, leather, etc. There are so many things that are better that it is not generally used.

State Capitols.

Editor Question Bureau: Please tell me which state capitol building cost the most, New York or Pennsylvania. How long was the New York capitol building, and what trouble was had from different sources?—A. A. A., Clifford, Pa.

The Pennsylvania state capitol, we understand, cost something over $13,000,000, the greater cost of which was for furniture and "trimmings." The capitol at Albany, N. Y., cost $25,000,000. The building was begun in 1871 and continued by several different architects. There was, as a consequence, lack of unity in plans, which added to the cost. Millions were spent in alterations and reconstructions. One staircase, said to be the finest in the world, cost nearly two millions of dollars.

Pueblo, Colorado.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you please tell all you can of Pueblo, Col., and the country surrounding it?—E. M., Sandusky, Michigan.

Pueblo is in a basin on the eastern foothills of the Rocky mountains. A temporary Mormon settlement was located there in 1846, and a trading post was established in 1850. In 1854 the Ute Indians massacred the residents of the post. In 1859 the present city was laid out, and in 1873 it was chartered as a city. The region of the country east is largely devoted to agriculture and stock raising. In the vicinity of the city are extensive coal and oil fields and deposits of limestone and iron ore. The silver and copper ores are brought a considerable distance to the smelters of Pueblo, and lead, gold and zinc are here prepared for the metals of commerce. The iron and steel industries have become quite extensive. Pueblo has over $13,000,000 invested in manufactories. The principal public institutions of the city are the state insane asylum, St. Mary's hospital and sanatorium, Minnieque hospital and small private sanatoriums. There are two systems of public schools, one on each side of the river; two high schools, public and parish schools, and a public library with 14,000 volumes. The school census of 1903 gave the town a population of 63,000.

George Francis Train.

Editor Question Bureau: Please give a sketch of George Francis Train.—P. B. W., Greenville, Ills.

George Francis Train was born in Boston, March 24, 1829. In 1850 he was put in charge of the Liverpool branch of an American business house, and three years later was admitted to partnership. Another branch was established in Melbourne, Australia, in 1853, under his supervision, and during the three years of his stay there, he introduced a sailing-ship service between Boston and Australia. In 1858, he interested English capital in the A. & G. W. R'y and afterward undertook street railway enterprises in England and other European countries, but his plans, through opposition and otherwise, were frustrated. His next railroad enterprise was building the Union Pacific railway, ground for which was broken at Omaha, December 2, 1863, and the connection that linked the eastern and western extremities completed May 10, 1869. He made a tour of the world in 80 days, arriving at Marseilles, France, October 20, 1870, where he orgnaized the commune, was arrested and imprisoned for 13 days at Lyons. In 1972 he became an independent candidate for president of the United States. He was a man of eccentric habits and extravagant speech, and in November, 1872, was arrested on the charge of having published obscene literature. The passages objected to were wholly quotations from the Bible. He was discharged from custody after having been adjudged insane. His later years were spent in New York, where he adopted the habit of speaking only to children. He called himself "Citizen of the World," and while his title to property valued at $30,000,000 at Omaha, Nebr., remained in litigation he affected a simple style of living ,and spent his last years at a cheap hotel, where he died in 1904.

Church Membership.

Editor Question Bureau: In the Bureau in Blade of December 13, in reply to C. L. D., Winterset, Ia., as to denominational church membership, you say the membership of various church denominations in the United States is as follows: "Methodist Episcopal, 2,847,932; Presbyterians of all denominations, 5,150,597; Baptists of all denominations, 5,150,815; United Presbyterians, 121, 238." By referring to American Almanac of 1904, I find the following figures are given: "Total Methodists in the United States, 6,084,755; total Presbyterians, 1,635,016; total Baptists, 4,629,487; total Lutherans, 1,745,588; total Episcopalians, 767,334." This number must be presumed correct, and your answer is misleading.—J. M. M., Lewisburk, W. Va.

The Bureau aditor is pleased to have readers correct him when he goes wrong, but in the above instance he will not admit all the figures given are wrong. The figures we gave are from statistics prepared by Dr. H. K. Carroll, late special agent of the United States census office, for The Christian Advocate, and published in 1905, a year later than those quoted by our friend. Furthermore, we did not attempt to give the total number of communicants of all Methodist denominations, but only of Methodist Episcopal church, for which our inquirer asked. The total number of Methodists of all denominations reaches 6,256,738, or 71,983 more than our friend finds in his American Almanac. He has the total number of Baptists too low by 521,328. The Bureau admits a clerical error in recording the number of Presbyterians of all denominations. We should have given the number at 1,697,697, instead of 5,150,697. We are particularly pleased that this mistake has been called to our attention. Otherwise we shall insist that our statement is nearer correct than our friend's, because it is taken from more recent statistics than those from which he gets his information.

The Case of Smoot.

Editor Question Bureau: Is Senator-elect Smoot drawing pay while his case is being decided, or does his pay begin when he is sworn in. I have often thought that if he draws pay while our national wind-jammers are deciding his case he is ahead in one respect—getting pay without any work or responsibility.—E. C., Erie, Pa.

Our inquirer makes the mistake of assuming that the contest against Mr. Smoot is to prevent his being seated; on the contrary the efforts that are being made are for the purpose of unseating him. Mr. Smoot has been a member of the senate since March 3, 1903. Of course he has a right to his salary, as much right as any other senator.

Ancient Babylon.

Editor Question Bureau: Can you give us a summary of discoveries that have been made on the site of ancient Babylon? Have we reason to believe that there ever existed such a stupendous piece of masonry as the walls of ancient Babylon are represented to have been?—R. M., Rushsylvania, O.

Throughout Babylonia are to be seen mounds of debris, everyone of which covers the remains of a long-forgotten civilization. About the middle of the last century a number of English explorers visited the ruins of some of the important cities. Many cities besides Babylon were located. The first methodical and extensive excavations in the country were begun by the French at Tello, in 1876. These were followed in 1889 by those of the Americans, representing the University of Pennsylvania, under Peters, for about six months, followed by Hilprecht and Haynes. Excavations at Tello and Nuffar have been exceptionally fruitful in important results. At Tello were uncovered the remains of an ancient civilization of the third and fourth millenniums B. C., representing the Sumerian people. The Nippur excavations yielded antiquities of the Semitic race, as well as the Sumerian. By the aid of statues and inscriptions discovered the physiognomy and customs of the people became comparatively well known. The remains of their civilization as regards sculpture, engraving, etc., are of an exceptionally highly developed character as revealed by the antiquities, some of which are remarkable for the fineness of their execution and beauty. Their writing also, instead of being primitive, is so far removed from the original hieroglyphs that in many instances the pictorial outline can no longer be recognized. These things demonstrate the fact that back of that which is now known as the earliest there must be a long period of development covering many centuries. The number of inscriptions, small and large, discovered in Babylonia up to the present time, number fully 150,000. At Tello De Sarzec unearthed a library containing about 30,000 tablets belonging to the time of Gudea, 3,000 B. C. As to the walls of ancient Babylon, we no more have reason to doubt their existence than we have to doubt the existence of the city itself.

Literary Societies.

Editor Question Bureau: When were literary societies first organized? When were they introduced in the United States? Who are the main leaders? Are there many literary societies today?—G. H., Morgantown, W. Va.

There are more questions here than we can answer. The first literary club, or society, of which we can find any record was founded by Dr. Johnson and Sir Joshua Reynolds in 1764. Boswell, Burke and Goldsmith were among the first members. The club's opinion of a new literary work was soon known all over London and had great influence. Macaulay was a member of this club. We cannot tell when the first literary society was organized in .the United States, neither can we tell how many are in existence today.

"Shooting Up" a Town.

Editor Question Bureau: Would like to know what is meant by "shooting up" the town' of Brownsville, Texas.—W. P. K., Utica, O.

"Shooting up" a town is a wild west phrase or slanf. It is expressive of a lot of indiscriminate shooting, by which residents are terrorized and driven to shelter from the flying bullets.

Christmas as a Holiday.

Editor Question Bureau: When and under what circumstances, or for what reason, was Christmas made a national holiday?—D. G. G., Woodsfield, O.

Christmas is not a national holiday. We have no national holiday in this country. Christmas is a legal holiday in all the states of the United States, but it is created a legal holiday by legislative enactment, and not by the national government. We cannot tell when each state passed the necessary legislation making the day a legal holiday.

Advice to Bureau Readers.

Editor Question Bureau: I am not going to ask you any questions at this time, but I would like to offer a little advice to some of those questioners who are persistently asking the editor questions that he has already answered a dozen times. I would suggest that readers prepare a scrapbook, cut out all answers of interest, and with a little mucilage paste them in the scrapbook, and in a short time you will have, not only a book of reference, but one of history. The outlay is very small. Try it.—A. G. C., Marquisville, Ia.

Protestants in France.

Editor Question Bureau: In your answer to J. M. K., Rinard, Ill., you answer his question in regard to France and the Roman Catholic church, but do not answer in regard to other churches. I have failed to find anything in the news columns of The Blade on the subject. Some other papers state that the Protestant churches and Jews promptly submitted to the law. How about it?—J. H., East Liverpool, O.

We know of no antagonism among Protestants and Jews against the change of church relationship in Farnce. The Catholics are the dominant church in the country. The members of this church form about 78½ per cent. of the total population, the Protestants less than 2 per cent. Many profess no religion. It is apparent from these figures why no protest could be expected from so small a body as that represented by members of the Protestant churches.

The "Old Dominion."

C. W., Harrisville, W. Va.: Virginia, the "Old Dominion,' was one of the original thirteen states. Its shores were perhaps explored by Sebastian Cabot (1498) and Verragano (1524), and certainly by Sir Walter Raleigh, who attempted to colonize the territory, which he named Virginia in honor of Queen Elizabeth. In 1606, the London Company was chartered and obtained a grant of the land between the thirty-fourth and forty-first degrees of latitude. Three years later new boundaries were given to Virginia. Starting from Old Point Comfort, it was to extend two hundred miles north and south, and "west and northwest," to the South Sea or Pacific Ocean. The London Company was to have the profits of the colony for twenty-one years, after which they were to pass to the crown. In 1624, or a short time prior to that period, factions appeared in the London Company, and a writ of quo warranto was issued against the charter, and Virginia became a royal colony. Virginia remained loyal to Charles I during his struggle with parliament, and became the home of many royalist fugtitives who were the ancestors of many of the most famous men in the history of the state. Charles II showed his ingratitude to the loyalty of the people by granting the entire territory to Lords Arlington and Culpepper, and by the enforcement of the Navigation Act, which compelled all the colonists to sell all their products in English markets.

Leap Years Again.

Editor Question Bureau: Please tell me all you can about leap years. Are all years that are divisible by 4 leap years? If they are not, how can we account for the odd or extra day at the end of four years? What gave rise to the name "leap year?"—R. M. P., Oakley, Tenn.

The name "leap year" is probably due to the notion that the calendar takes a leap of one day every fourth year to make up for its ordinary year being one-fourth day too short. Every year is a leap year which is divisible by four without remainder, except the concluding years of centuries, every fourth only of which is a leap year. This was explained more fully in the Bureau in last week's Blade.

Miscellaneous.

A. B. T., Clifty, Ind.: Illinois leads all other states in the production of alcoholic liquors, most of which is manufactured at Peoria.

E. J. H., Matthews, Ind.: We do not publish old poems or songs. Do not know the author of the one you mention.

M. J. P., Maple Rapids, Mich.: We cannot tell you what penalty there is for the offense you refer to. It is a question for an attorney of your state to answer.

F. G. B., Petersburg, Va.: We would advise you to write to the Panama canal commission, Washington, D. C., for the information you want.

G. C., Manorville, Pa.: Why do not explorers go in search of the South Pole? They have done so; and we understand that there is talk of a proposition now to send an expedition in search of the South Pole, and another to seek the North Pole. We not long since printed in these columns a brief article telling of explorations made in the direction of the South Pole.

F. J. S., Fostoria, Mich.: Your question was recently answered in these columns, so far as we were able to answer it. It is too lengthy to repeat.

CHIEF OF THE DELAWARES

A very interesting man, who is as well known in Washington as in his home in the Southwest, is Richard C. Adams, hereditary chief of the Delaware Indians.

"There are 1,100 of the Delawares left," said Mr. Adams, "and we have a beautiful and fertile tract of country included in the limits of the present Cherokee nation, but soon to become a part of the new state of Oklahoma. They acknowledge me as their chief by virtue of my inheriting the office from my father, although he did not exercise the rights of leadership. After me the title descends to my oldest son, and as long as any of the tribe remains the chieftainship will go down in direct line of descent."—Washington Herald.

GHOSTS AT SEA.

Sailors Say the Ocean Is Haunted, but Only in Spots.

"An old sailor told me that ghosts are common enough at sea," says a writer in the Manchester Guardian. "He says that some parts of the ocean are full of spirits and that others have none.

"They are not often seen. Only common ghosts are seen, according to the old sailor. He says that they often come aboard ships, but not to do harm; that the early morning is the best time to see them, a little before turn-to time, before the ship's cook has the coffee ready.

"There is an old story of a ship which carried an extra hand who had never signed articles. The crew discovered, when they were in blue water, that one watch had a man too many.

"I once knew a sailor who had sailed in a haunted passenger steamer. She was one of the ships plying between the Platte and Liverpool, but I cannot mention her name, as she is still afloat. She has one peculiarity, a poop as big as the poop of an East Indiaman.

"This poop is haunted. The sailor who told me of the ghosts was one of the ship's quartermasters. On one passage, when the ship was in the tropics, he had the middle watch below. The fo'c's'le (which happened to be aft, under the poop) was so hot that he could not sleep. At last he turned out of his bunk, took a blanket and a pillow and went on deck to sleep. He made up his bed on the poop to leeward of one of the boats, and settled down to rest at about 3 in the morning, just as the dawn had begun to change the color of the sky.

"He did not know how long he slept; but he woke up with a start to see a line of men brooming down the poop toward him with a boatswain in front of them, swilling buckets of water on to the deck as they worked aft. He saw them as plainly as I see my dinner on my plate, some three or four yards away, all working hard. They were so near that he sprang to his feet at once, grabbing up his gear lest it should be wet.

"He had hardly taken his gear in his hand when he thought with a shock that he had overslept himself at least an hour and a half; that it was now half past 5, since they were washing decks; that he hadn't been to muster and that he would get a bee in his ear, if nothing worse, for going on deck to sleep without leaving word where he could be found. As he got up he saw that the boatswain and the hands took no notice of him, though one of the sweepers looked in his direction.

"'He was a red-headed fellow,' said the quartermaster, 'and he'd got a scar across one cheek like he'd been hit by a club; an ugly looking lad he was. So I knew at once he wasn't one of our crowd.

"'And I saw him as plain as I stand here, and he looked at me; and I saw the boatswain as plain, too; I saw him tell the red-headed fellow to heave 'round on his broom and not go dreaming like a godsend Sunday fellow. No, I didn't hear him say that, I only seen him.

"'And the fellow he went on brooming down directly I seen him get told. I felt queer all over; it was so natural. I wasn't dreaming. I was awake all right. It was a vision. Or if it wasn't a vision I'll tell you what it was—it was sent.

"'It was sent as a warning. That red-headed fellow was a warning. Some time I shall meet that red-headed fellow, and you mark my words, he'll give me a queer push, sure.

"'So I shall stand from under when I come alongside of him. I'd know him again if I saw him, all right.

DEAFNESS BOOK FREE

A book that will be the means of restoring hearing to hundreds of deaf people is now being given away absolutely free of charge by its author, a famous Deafness Specialist, who has just perfected the best method for curing Deafness yet known.

This book contains the most helpful and valuable information in regard to curing Deafness, and every deaf person in the country should send for it at once and learn how to regain clear and perfect hearing. From beginning to end it's full of interesting reading and fine pictures that explain all about the ear and just what causes Deafness and the terrible ringing, buzzing noises in the head. It contains wonderful help for deaf people—new and important information that will be of great value. Best of all, it shows how Deafness can be cured, safely and painlessly, right at home.

Don't miss this book if you are deaf. Send for it NOW, while this paper is at hand. Write your name and address plainly on the dotted lines, cut out the Free Coupon and mail it at once to **Deafness Specialist SPROULE, 6-9 Trade Building, Boston.**

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....

Some day if I shall see him.'

"The vision, or warning, or whatever it was, kept him awake for the rest of the watch. He went below to the fo'c's'le, having had enough of the poop, and found that he had been asleep hardly more than 20 minutes.

"There is something wrong with that poop. It is not a canny place.

"I know of another queer thing which happened there, and of a man who started up from his sleep beside a boat to prophesy of what should happen to him in a year's time. The prophecy seemed to everyone the most crack-brained nonsense; but it was fulfilled exactly, almost to a day, certainly within a week of the time predicted."

ORANGE BLOSSOMS.

The orange blossom is so typical of weddings that few ever stop to wonder why it has attained its position as the bridal flower.

The custom of wearing orange blossoms on the wedding day originated in Spain. The story goes that an African potentate once gave a Spanish king a magnificent orange tree, whose fragrant blossoms were the admiration of all who were permitted to see them. In vain many people begged for a sprig of the lovely plant, and most persistent of all was a foreign ambassador, who wished to send a cutting to his own country.

It so happened that the head gardener, who had charge of the orange tree, possessed a charming daughter, who was courted by a young artisan. The girl, however, lacked a dowry, so there seemed no prospect of their marriage taking place. One day her father accidentally broke off a spray of orange blossom from the precious tree, and give it to his daughter, who placed the creamy flowers in her hair, where they attracted the attention of the ambassador. He promised to give the young girl a sum sufficient for her dowry if she would give him the spray, and, needless to add, she willingly did so. She was soon afterward married, and in remembrance of the luck brought by the orange blossom she secretly broke off another piece, which she wore on her wedding day, an example followed by brides of our own and most foreign countries.

LITTLE BOY JOHN.

BY ELIZABETH AYRES.

Rose Merton awakened in the late dawn of New Year's morning, weighted with the depressing feeling that she faced a day of empty hours. It was too early for her to arise, especially when there was no incentive, and so she stayed in her bed, giving her mind to gloomy thoughts.

"I wonder why one should feel so much more excited about one day than another," she reflected. "I wasn't so lonely yesterday and I shall not be so lonely tomorrow, but today I am in the depths. Nothing to do and no place to go. My friends are busied with their own affairs. None has asked me to dinner and I can't go visiting and break in on family reunions. She was filled with self-pity and buried her face in her pillow to soothe the pain of her tear-burned eyes.

"The holiday blues have become so popular a fad as to lose their originality," she argued. "Only last week I withered a woman with my scorn because she complained she dreaded the holidays and would be so glad when they were over. Now, I am feeling that way myself. Well," she thought in self defense, "Christmas and New Year's are always memory days with those who have left youth behind, and memory days are sometimes very hard to bear. It is only the children who have no past and no dreams of the future."

Her mind drifted into the mists of dreamland, and she went to sleep again.

When she awakened the day was well on its way, and the hour for breakfast was long since over. Like most women who live alone in a boarding house, she kept a few supplies in her room to meet an emergency like the present, and, while she dressed, she breakfasted on fruit and a cup of tea brewed on a tiny gas stove. When she had finished, and had put her room to rights out of consideration for the maid whose routine her late rising would disorder, she was undecided whether to fill her time with letter writing or to spend the day enjoying a luxury of melancholy. As she worked for her own support, ordinarily she was too much occupied to indulge in mental misery, but today was a blank page upon which she might write, according to her humor. Though still undecided as to what she should do, she went to her desk and brought out her writing materials, leaving to the dictates of her mood what was to follow.

She sat there looking out of the window with unseeing eyes when she was aroused by a thud against the door and the beating of soft fists on its panels. The thud was the impact of Little Boy John's small body, and his way of announcing his arrival. Ordinarily, Miss Rose and Little Boy John were great friends and comrades, but when she had almost choosen to be melancholy, she was not sure that she wanted his company. She hesitated before answering his summons, and, made impatient by the delay, Little Boy John again thumped himself against the door with a force that expressed his determination to enter.

"Come in," Rose called, her voice tinged with resignation.

Little Boy John let himself in almost before the half-reluctant invitation was spoken, and, after bestowing on Rose a beaming smile of approval, turned quite around to close the door carefully.

"I wis' you a happy New Year," he greeted politely.

"And I wish you the same," Rose returned, feeling glad, now the child was with her, that he had insisted upon gaining entrance.

Little Boy John was the son of Rose's landlady. Owing to his mother's multitudinous duties he was left much to his own devices. Since their first meeting he had evinced a devoted affection for Rose, and assiduously sought her society whenever she was at home.

The child was like a snowdrop in his fairness of hair and complexion. To correct a defect in their sight, his wide, blue eyes were covered by a pair of large spectacles which gave him a look of precocious wisdom.

"I'm so glad you're home, Miss Wose," he confided. "Muvver is dwiven most to death, she's so busy. I've come to stay all day," he related, without a doubt of his welcome.

"I shall be very pleased to have you," Rose answered, "but I must ask you to be very quiet and not ask questions until I have finished writing my letters," she said, suddenly coming to a decision as to how she should fill her vacant time.

Little Boy John was a living interrogation. There were so many things he wanted to know, but if Miss Rose was too much occupied to answer questions he was at once resolved to be very still if he might remain in her presence.

They were always ceremoniously polite in their manner to each other, and Little Boy John signified his intention to obey her request with a grave "why, soorly," which Miss Rose, being conversant with his language, translated as meaning "why, surely."

For some time he sat curled up in a big chair, apparently deep in meditation. At length, growing restless from being quiet so long, he climbed out of the chair and moved about the room, examining its furnishings as if they were new objects. Miss Rose, absorbed in her letters, paid no heed to his movements, until her attention was attracted by the monotonous drone of his baby voice saying over and over, "Mustn't ask kestions, but I'd like to tell you, Miss Wose, could I wummage?"

Rummaging through Miss Rose's possessions was a delightful occupation to Little Boy John, and one in which she frequently permitted him to indulge. He was standing before her closet, having drawn aside its curtain, peering with longing eyes into its depths. He was especially fascinated by a small tin box he had never seen before. It was provided with a lock and key, which made it all the more desirable in the sight of Little Boy John.

"Mustn't ask kestions," he repeated, "but I'd like to tell you, Miss Wose, could I wummage?"

"Yes, Little Boy John," Miss Rose consented, without looking to see upon what his desires were centered.

He brought out the box and carried it to a clear space on the floor where he could spread out its contents. There was nothing in the box except a package of letters. Little Boy John's imagination had suggested rare treasures. He felt disappointed and turned the letters over and over in his hands to discover some hidden attraction. Finding nothing interesting, the paper upon which the letters were written, suggested the joy of cutting out dolls. He glanced around the room in search of a pair of scissors, and seeing what he wanted in Rose's sewing basket, easily within reach, he again made known his wish in his own peculiar fashion.

"Mustn't ask kestions, but I'd like to tell you Miss Wose, could I cut paper?"

He repeated the refrain until it caught Rose's hearing.

"Yes," she told him, with her thoughts far away, "cut paper as much as you like."

Little Boy John gleefully availed himself of her permission and soon the letters were converted into weird shapes and forms which, to the child's eyes, were "mens" of various description. A disorderly mass of clippings covered the floor when he had come to the end of his supply, and, tired of this diversion, Little Boy John concluded to sing to himself in his shrill treble:

"Quack, quack said the duck, quack, quack,
Quack, quack, said the little duck, too,
I wouldn't be a girl with a feather and a curl,
I wouldn't be a girl would you?"

Miss Rose turned toward him with a smile at the sentiment of his song, and saw what he had been doing. The empty tin box showed whence had come the papers he had been cutting, and she sprang to her feet with an exclamation of anger.

Not comprehending her state of mind, Little Boy John rejoiced that she should be paying him some attention. "Dose is mens," he explained graciously, pointing his forefinger at the strange creatures strewing the floor. "Dose is big mens."

Compressing her lips to hold back the severe words impulse prompted her to utter, she went over to the dismembered letters, and, sweeping the pieces together with her hands, gathered them into a heap.

"Throw them into the waste paper basket, John," she directed briefly.

The child, frightened by what he saw in her face ,obeyed silently. Rose went back to her chair and sat there in a blaze of anger. The sight of the letters had reminded her of an old wrong she had long been striving to drive from her memory. When her wound was fresh, in her bitterness she had preserved the letters to keep her hatred of their writer at white heat. Gradually, as time passed, she had taken them less frequently from their hiding place until she had almost forgotten that they existed. Through the innocent agency of Little Boy John they had come to light again to rekindle the fire of hatred which had been so nearly extinguished.

He had touched her raw nerve, and the pain of it filled her with fury. Once this bitterness of feeling had poisoned her whole existence. It had arisen with her in the morning and had lain down with her at night. It threatened to poison her life again as the memory of the old wrong swept through her brain. She was hating as intensely as she had hated when she was first injured, and while she was carried out of her surroundings by a feeling that was almost insanity, Little Boy John came to her side, unnoticed. He spoke to her several times before he could get her attention. He stood looking at her through his big glasses, with his head held to one side in a birdlike poise. He had never seen Miss Rose like this before, and he was troubled and frightened. His lips quivered, and, feeling a sense of discipline, he spoke in a whisper.

"I'm so sweet, Miss Rose," he pleaded: "please take me."

He held out his arms to be lifted. Rose could not withstand his appeal, and she caught him up to her heart. His arms went around her throat with a warm pressure, and she felt his lips, clean, and cool, and sweet as the petals of a flower, against her cheek.

It came into her fancy that she was holding a human soul, pure as an angel's and unsullied with evil passions. Under its softening influence she felt her fury dying.

"What is the use of torturing oneself by cherishing the memory of a wrong forever," was her mental question.

Her thought was reflected by her words when she said, "Little Boy John, never, never, hate anyone. It makes you so unhappy."

"No'm," he promised, nodding his head wisely as if in full comprehension of her meaning.

His arms tightened around her throat in a loving embrace. He knew his good comrade had come back again.

"I wis' you a happy New Year, Miss Rose," he said.

"And I wish you the same, Little Boy John," she res[illegible]

DESK HABITS.

Business Men Who Surround Themselves With Order.

"Curious about men's desk habits," said a man whose business takes him about more or less into various sorts of offices. "I was in an office yesterday where I had occasion to write something.

"'Here, sit down at my desk,' says the man. 'I guess you can find a place there.'

"And I did find a place there after moving one or two things, but that was all I found—a place just big enough to write in, and that square in the middle of the desk.

"This was a flat top desk and, except for that small, bare spot in the middle, it was just covered with papers and things of every description, and these not folded or stocked or set up about in any orderly manner, but all apparently in the utmost confusion.

"The desk looked as though its owner when he had got through with a document or bill had just pushed it back from the bare spot on the desk. And so he had stuff piled up on his desk overlapping and lying around any way all around the top of his desk, and actually sloping down from all around to that bare spot like a little flat valley, where he wrote in the centre at the front.

"And this was a business man, too, and moreover, as I was told, a man who has accumulated a comfortable property in the pursuit of his business. And I found him in the dealings I had with him not only personally amiable in all things, as indicated by his cheery call to use his desk,, but fair and exact in his business ways.

"How he ever did business with his desk littered up in that way, how he ever found anything there that he wanted, or how he ever remembered anything I don't see; but as far as I know he never forgot anything that was important.

"It made me think of something a minister said to me once. I was saying to this minister, talking about preaching extemporaneously, that I should think when a man got up in the pulpit to preach without any notes that he'd be apt to forget some of the things he wanted to say, and the minister said that sometimes you might forget things in that way, but then he recalled what an experienced old clergyman had said to him, in reply to the same suggestion from himself, which was to the effect that the things the preacher forgot to say were usually the things not worth remembering.

"And maybe it was so about the forgotten things in the pile of papers on that desk.

"But he wasn't the only man I have met who kept his desk apparently in the greatest disorder but was nevertheless successful; and then I have known plenty of men who went as far the other way, and who would have a fit unless they could keep everything on their desks just so.

"The inkstand must be here and the stamp box here, and the pen rack here; all just so, and kept so; and with no litter anywhere, with everything free and clear and in order. And I have known men who couldn't write unless they had their paper squared just right and all that; precise men, who must have everything just so before they could get to work; all the very opposite of the man with the littered desk, who has at least in his favor the fact that he doesn't worry himself over trifles, but keeps on serene through it all.

"And while I have known men who must have everyhting just so neat about their desks, fresh blotters and clean inkstands and all that, I have known other men who didn't care if their desks were a foot thick with dust, and who only asked that their things should not be moved or shifted about; these days less and less disorder in business methods and more and more system; this is an age of system."—New York Sun.

A BLUFF BY JAY GOULD

Brought U. S. Express Company to Terms by Buying Safes.

Recalling early days in the express business, an officer of one of the largest companies recently told this story to the New York Sun:

"Gould and Fiske then had hold of the Erie," he said, "and the United States Express company had all the express business on the road. The contract was about to expire and Gould wanted an arrangement more profitable to the Erie.

"'The Erie's doing all the work and you're making all the money,' Gould said to the express people. 'You ought to do some of the work and give the railroad a chance at the money.'

"The express company officials demurred. Their profit, they insisted, was no more than they were entitled to and they refused to shade the contract a penny. Gould insisted on a decrease, but they remained obdurate and eventually let the Erie president understand—what he very well knew—that no other company would compete against the United States for the Erie business. All the companies at that time were in an agreement to maintain rates.

"'All right,' said Gould at the conclusion of the interview, 'you've no objection, I guess, to my going into the express business for myself. It looks better than railroading.'

"The express people replied that Gould could organize all the companies he wanted to. They thought it was all bluff, but things that came to their attention soon weakened their faith in this idea. Gould was going around among his associates talking up an express company scheme, officials of other roads were told that a new company would be in the field to bid for their business and the papers began to talk about the new Gould Express company.

"The express officials, however, saw none of Gould's money going into the enterprise and stood pat. Presently it was reported that he had bought 24 big express safes. Was this talk or was it business? the express men asked themselves. They set to work investigating and they discovered that the report was true. Gould had actually bought and paid for the safes—safes cost money in those days, too—and he was negotiating for all the other equipment required.

"Now, thoroughly convinced of Gould's sincerity, the express company came to terms. Gould got the best contract from a railroad standpoint that had been known up to that time. The clause in the contract that the United States Express company considered most valuable to itself was one stipulating the abandonment of Gould's express plans.

"It was all a bluff on Gould's part, except buying the safes. For that matter the purchase was, of course, part of the bluff, but Gould had actually bought and paid for them unconditionally. Nevertheless he lost nothing on the deal, for as soon as friendly relations were established with the express officials he persuaded them they could use the safes in their business and sold them to them at a little better than cost."

"Was Thomas C. Platt at the head of the United States Express company then?" the man telling the story was asked.

"No," was the reply, "neither Platt nor any other senator."

THE NEGRO'S LAMENT.

Gwine 'long de big road
  Makin' er my moans,
White man eat turkey,
  An' gimme de bones!

Think de good times comin',
  An' den you gits de wust,
Climb ter reach de 'possum,
  White man git 'im fust!

Trouble, trouble, trouble!
  Chance look mighty slim;
Dunno why he hit me
  W'en I never trouble him!

A FULL DOLLAR'S WORTH OF
MAN MEDICINE
FREE FOR A DIME.

Here's a proposition, men, that makes it easy ENOUGH for any weak man to try MAN MEDICINE.

Dig up a dime—right now—secure this whole dollar's worth by return mail—and get well at home—quietly.

MAN MEDICINE, boys, is THE STUFF for the weak, weary man. It is the result of years of experience and study of men's weaknesses. It is scientific and it is harmless, but its quick action in man-building work is a wonder.

MAN MEDICINE puts the "nerve" into a man; takes the flinching out of his eyes and straightens his backbone. It will make you self-assertive, self-confident, able, powerful and vehement with the manly confidence that bubbles up in the strong-nerved body. Be that kind of a man—you can.

Send us a dime today; we will send you a dollar—in MAN MEDICINE—worth a "dollar a drop" some people say. Don't delay—there's nothing on the green footstool that will do the work for you like Man Medicine. It costs you a dime to try—the cost of the package—to get a full-sized dollar package of MAN MEDICINE sent free to your home in plain, unmarked wrapper. Interstate Remedy Co., 296 Luck Bldg., Detroit, Mich.

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ILLINOIS RAISING GAME

State's Effort to Preserve Birds in Danger of Becoming Extinct.

Although the Illinois state game preserve, situated near Auburn, in Sangamon county, is less than a year old, it has proved that it will do a great work in restocking the prairies and woods of the state with every kind of game birds that will live in this climate and will prevent many species that were beginning to disappear from becoming extinct, says the Chicago Tribune. Aside from its useful purpose, the immense farm of over 200 acres presents unlimited opportunities to gratify the eye of men and women who love beauty in feathers.

This restocking of the woods and prairies has been the ambition of the game commissioner's department for years and, with the regulations that the law imposes on hunters, the state is in a fair way to have plenty of game birds for generations to come.

All the expenses of the game commissioner's department and of the preserve are paid by men who take out licenses to hunt. No money is expended from the revenues or taxes of the people. The number of hunters' licenses issued in a year has exceeded the most sanguine hopes and the department consequently has not been cramped for funds. When the money paid for the hunter's license comes to the state treasury it goes into a special fund which may be drawn upon for no other purpose than to pay the expenses of the game warden's office. Thus it is that the hunter who desires game to hunt helps the state to provide it.

In January, 1906, a tract of land, which now aggregates 215 acres, was leased from Charles Ridgely, of Springfield. This land is situated about three miles south of Auburn. About fifty acres of this tract is fenced with eight foot wire netting. In this enclosure are the breeding pens for the English and Chinese pheasants, Mexican, California and Bob White quail. A number of wild turkeys are at the farm, also a few pairs of prairie chickens. Wild ducks and geese are raised in limited numbers.

At least 1,000 pheasant hens will be kept on the game farm. The department expects not only to be able to furnish the young birds next season in unlimited quantities, but also to distribute pheasant eggs.

FRANCE'S WHITE FLAG.

The first white flag in French history was the banner of the Virgin Mary, borne by Joan of Arc in her heroic campaigns for the defense of the Dauphin. A pure white flag was occasionally used by Francis I in his struggle against the Emperor Charles V, but it did not become the permanent royal banner until Henry IV, the first Bourbon, ascended the throne in 1589.

The tricolor of the French revolution was a compromise. The cockades of the revolutionists were composed of two colors, the red of the Paris commune and the blue of the ancient monarchy. In the troubled times just preceding the deposition and execution of Louis XVI, Lafayette, to signify the desire of the people for a reconciliation with their king, added the Bourbon white to the cockade. The tricolor as a national emblem was adopted by the convention in 1794.

Long before this, however, the tricolor had been the national flag of Holland. The Dutch were in fact the first to use it. When the United Provinces gained their independence from Spain, in the sixteenth century, according to a favorite old story which cannot be authenticated, they invited Henry of Navarre, to choose their colors, and he suggested orange, blue and white. Whether he selected this combination or not, such were the colors of Holland until sometime in the seventeenth century, when the orange was replaced by red. When William of Orange became king of England in 1698, he crossed the channel under the red, white and blue.

When Something Comes Of It.

Nell—"These men who are always trying to kiss you make me tired."

Belle—"Me, too. There's nothing I admire so much as a successful man."—Philadelphia Ledger.

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TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1907.

Largest and Best Weekly Published and Largest Circulation.

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ROBINSON LOCKE..................Editor

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wideawake and thinking men. Its editorial page is one of the strongest and most thoughtful in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

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Current Comment

The pure food law goes into effect after January 1. After that, no doubt, we shall all begin to look fat and jolly.

Secretary Shaw's announcement that "too many ten-dollar bills are being held in reserve" was made before Christmas.

Says a woman writer: "Man is a plain necessity." We hope the men who strut around, feeling like a luxury, will see this.

Now that he is safe, Miner Hicks may not continue to pray, but it is safe to assume that he will keep on chewing tobacco.

A magazine writer has found a man who is "richer than Rockefeller." Poor old Croesus. Nobody thinks of him now!

With the Rothschilds fighting the Standard Oil company, the general public can assume the attitude of a disinterested spectator.

A Chicago University professor says women do not walk, they "wriggle." We pass him over to the mercy of the women's clubs.

In some quarters there is talk of raising the salaries of school teachers. Prosperity will get around to the preachers next.

Some men believe that the world is getting worse, and others that it is getting better. Much, no doubt, depends on the cooking.

While Curtis Jett is serving two life sentences, is it possible that he will reflect on what he would do if he had his two lives to live over?

When it comes to the dangers of prosperity some of us are so dull that we will have to have a diagram before we can recognize them.

What we want to see is a pure food law that will bring about a closer resemblance between the contents of the can and the picture on the outside.

Those ears of corn, that the old-fashioned weather prophets told us last fall were wearing peekaboo husks, must be suffering more or less from the cold.

"A traveler dropped a bomb in a Russian railway station yesterday." He may have been a polite bomb salesman, who considered it no trouble to show goods.

Were the "Immortal J. N." alive he would declare that both President Roosevelt and Senator Foraker are right about that Brownsville affair and let it go at that.

The trouble seems to be that there are only just about enough freight cars in the country to take care of the traffic during a Democratic administration.

Dr. Dwight Hillis says we need more poetry. There is danger in making such a statement too public. A lot of would-be poets are likely to take the doctor seriously.

A Boston man is trying to prove that George Washington was a liar. It is not likely, however, that he will make much headway against the well-established hatchet story.

It takes a race war to bring into prominence new places on the map. There's Scooba, for instance. How many people of the country had ever heard of Scooba up to a few days ago?

A Kalamazoo woman wants a divorce because her husband would not allow her to talk. Any bright judge should be able to make a record with that kind of a case before him.

In an interview Senator Tillman declares that he watched Senator Bailey like a hawk. Must have suspected that there was a remote possibility that the Texas statesman might go wrong.

A paragraph stating that it takes thirty-six hours to cook an elephant's foot is going the rounds. We shall probably learn the answer when we find somebody who likes elephant's foot.

It may take the Standard Oil company some time to find a technicality for every indictment, but if it doesn't its attorneys will have to give a pretty plausible reason for the shortage.

Mayor Schmitz, of San Francisco, has been talking about what a pleasure it would be to him to die fighting the Japanese, but he will probably have to think of some other pleasant relaxation.

The agricultural department suspects that there is such a thing in existence as a lumber trust. Perhaps the agricultural department has been building a hen house or something and has reason for its suspicion.

With the race question unsettled we can see where the country grocers are going to lose a lot of money during the winter. The cracker barrel orators will help themselves to a lot of cheese during the debates.

Subjects of King Peter of Servia are beginning to show anxiety for a change of monarchs. There are lots of people in the world who didn't get a single Christmas present, and yet they wouldn't exchange places with Peter.

SMYSER'S MISCONCEPTION.

Lawyerlike, Congressman Smyser seems to look upon President Roosevelt's discharge of members of the 25th infantry as punishment for a crime committed, but that was not the case. The men were discharged "for the good of the service," because the President believed they were insubordinate and mutinous. Mr. Smyser says that if the official reports constitute all the evidence the President has, he has been imposed upon, that no case was made against the soldiers, and he recites the failure of the grand jury to return indictments in proof of his assertion.

If Congressman Smyser has read carefully the testimony brought out during the investigation he must be convinced of one or two things. Certainly he won't deny that dwelling houses in Brownsville were fired upon, that a saloonkeeper was shot down and the chief of police so badly injured that he lost an arm. The evidence is conclusive that the shooting was done with army guns and that clips and shells were found on the streets corresponding to those used by the men in the barracks not 400 feet from the scene of the riot. There is likewise abundant testimony that the firing was done by colored soldiers, and there the proof ends. Obviously no townsman could be found to identify the rioters by name and the utter refusal of the soldiers to furnish any information made the work of the grand jury and later of the government inspectors abortive. There is no provision whereby an indictment can be returned against a company of soldiers as a company or against a regiment as a regiment. Hence the grand jury was at its wit's end.

So, too, the President is powerless to inflict punishment for the crime itself. But he knows, as everyone else who has followed the proceedings knows, that some men of the 25th infantry are guilty of murder and riotous conduct. He knows there were others in the barracks who, while they may not have participated in the affair, undertook to shield the real culprits, and it is in his power to punish for this insubordination, for this failure to appreciate the obligation which every enlisted man owes to his country. And he exercised his authority as commander-in-chief of the army to inflict this punishment by discharging the three companies without honor.

It is contended that because all appropriations for the maintenance of the army originates with congress, therefore that body only can regulate and discipline the soldiers, but that is almost too absurd a proposition to be considered. With equal reason it might be claimed that neither the President nor the head of any department can dismiss a subordinate, inasmuch as congress makes the necessary appropriations for his salary.

The fact is, as a Washington correspondent stated recently, the entire campaign against the President's order is a thinly veiled attempt to discredit him in the eyes of the people, and the weakness of the attack is made apparent by the flimsiness of the arguments employed to show that he has acted impulsively and unjustly. In some respects the affair may be of advantage to the administration as showing the impregnability of its position, but on the other hand it is to be deplored that the agitation is vitalizing the race issue in a dangerous degree.

COAL AND CONGRESS.

Reports from the northwest of extreme suffering for lack of coal which railroads deny thir inability to transport have attracted the attention of congress and efforts will be made to extend the authority of the Inter-State Commerce Commission to meet just such situations.

The coal famine is directly due to traffic congestion. There are not enough cars to handle the business and now that the big corn crop is moving, conditions are daily growing worse. But the demand for food and fuel are imperative and it is the opinion of members of congress that the common carriers should be required to care for this demand before they transmit other produce. Whether the government has power to confer mandatory authority on the Inter-State Commerce Commission whereby it can compel railroads to give preference to coal and provisions may be debatable, but as to the need of such legislation, ther is no dispute. It is absurd to think that in this era of the nation's prosperity, any section of it should be threatened with fuel famine, when there is fuel to be had and money to pay for it.

PATRICK AND HIS NERVE.

The commutation of Patrick's death sentence to imprisonment for life was ordered by Governor Higgins, of New York, only after he made a careful review of the case. He bore in mind that while the majority of the courts to which the appeals were made, had decided against the condemned men, there were dissenting judges with weighty argument to sustain them.

The fact is, even if Patrick were the most guilty wretch on earth, the manner of his conviction does not appeal to human sense of justice and equity. It has never been claimed that Patrick actually murdehed Rice, the aged millionaire. Jones, the valet, when arrested for the crime, confessed that he chloroformed his employer at the behest of Patrick. Because he made this confession, implicating Patrick as particeps crimiuis, he was granted immunity. The corroborating circumstance that largely influenced the jury was the fact that by the will of the vicitm. Patrick was the chief beneficiary. That furnished the motive, although there have been numerous similar cases where a man had cut off his relatives in favor of an intimate friend.

We do not undertake to say whether Patrick is guilty or innocent, but we do not beleive any man should hang on the testimony of another who acknowledges participation, and who, because he agrees to betray his fellow criminal, is promised immunity. This is a selfish world and there are a good many in it who would not hesitate to swear away the life of another to save their own.

In Patrick's favor is the game fight he has made, continuing over a period of nearly five years; a faithful wife who has never for a moment doubted his innocence, and a devoted brother-in-law, who has already expended a fortune in the defense of the condemned man. Patrick is a shrewd lawyer. He may have been avaricious, and, in his greed, forged the will that gave him Rice's millions, and then encompassed his wealthy client's death. He may through all these years have duped his wife, his brother-in-law and his lawyers. In that case, of course, he deserved death, but it is strange indeed that his nerve, even with the court of last resort against him, has been as the enrve of one who believed in the justice of his cause.

SANTA FE'S LIBERAL POLICY.

The liberal policy which the Santa Fe Railroad company will inaugurate the first of the year with reference to its old employes indicates that the value of co-operation between capital and labor is beginning to be appreciated. President Ripley, in making the announcement, expresses the hope that the new system will result in mutual benefits, encouraging in the employes a feeling that their interests are being conserved by the company and spurring them to give the best service of which they are capable.

The policy provides a pension for those incapacitated while in the employ of the company and for those who, having been in the service for fifteen continuous years, have reached the age of 65. The amount is graduated according to the length of service, and ranges from $20 to $75 per month, thereby insuring those who come within the provisions, of comfortable maintenance.

The Blade regards this proposition as the most advanced of the year in its bearing on the industrial situation of this country. If other corporations adopt a similar policy, the movement will have an important influence in adjusting the differences between capital and labor. The concessions which labor has obtained during the last twenty years have been obtained largely by force, and are of doubtful advantage at best. But here is a tangible voluntary benefit, one that must appeal to every employe of the Santa Fe. The workingman who finds it difficult to save anything from his wages is always confronted with the fear that he won't have enough to care for himself and dependents in his old age, or that, by reason of accident, he will become a burden to, and cease to be the breadwinner for, his family. The Santa Fe has made provisions in both cases, thereby evincing a desire to be just and humane.

If the policy to be thus inaugurated appeals to other corporations, and becomes a part of the general industrial system, employes must accept it as evidence of the dawn of a new regime when corporations are no longer soulless and when employers look upon employes with more interest than that which is measured by individual producing power. Then if employes are appreciative, they will show a renewed interest in their work, and not regard their employers simply as the agency through which they secure a livelihood. Each will have a higher regard for the other, and together they will constitute an industrial machine that will be the wonder of the world, for in mutual sympathy there is a perfect understanding and in unity there is strength.

DEATH OF A. J. CASSATT.

Every American takes pride in the great Pennsylvania railroad system, and every American who is familiar with the history of its development credits much of its success to Alexander J. Cassatt, its president, whose death occurred yesterday in Philadelphia.

While Mr. Cassatt was not promoted to the executiveship of the Pennsylvania until 1889, long after it had become recognized as one of the best managed railroad properties in the world, he had an active share in producing the results. He was employed by the company as a rodman in 1861, when it was scarcely more than a state road, and he has been with it ever since. His industry, coupled with his knowledge of engineering, won him rapid promotion, and within five years he was made superintendent of motive power and construction. Eleven years later he became general superintendent, and from that period it may be said that the policy of the road was largely Cassatt's policy.

Up till last year the Pennsylvania yas looked upon as a model corporation, and Mr. Cassatt often referred to the fact with great show of pride. Then the Interstate Commerce commission began its investigation, and the disclosures were so sensational as to be almost beyond belief. Employes of the road, however, furnished most of the evidence that convicted them of questionable dealings. Coal stocks had been distributed among them and the result was that shippers who had handed out these favors were enabled to get privileges in return which were not shared by others. The practice had grown to enormous proportions, and the exposure knocked the Pennsylvania off its high pedestal.

President Cassatt was in Europe during the investigation, but hurried home as soon as he learned the nature of the testimony. He denied emphatically having any knowledge of the relations existing between favored coal companies and the railroad's employes, and his denial was generally accepted for the truth, but, as president of the road, he could not wholly escape censure, and, no doubt, the trouble weighed heavily on him, possibly hastening his death.

CONGRESSMEN'S SALARIES.

Uncle Joe Cannon, Vice President Fairbanks and members of the President's cabinet, have substantial reasons for remembering this Christmas. Their Santa Claus was congress, which amended the salary law, giving the officers mentioned a raise of some propositions. It was not the original intention of the house to quit with this. The program included a 50 per cent raise of salaries for every member of the lawmaking body, but when it came to the crucial test, there was not enough backbone in the house to pass the bill. Evidently public opinion has lost none of its force.

Yet as a matter of fact the proposed increase is justified. It is absurd to suppose that a congressman will live in Washington during the sessions of congress and save anything from the $5,000 which he now receives. Most of them come out poorer than when they went in. If any congresman thrives while performing the public work, suspicions are aroused and his constituents begin to inquire where he got it.

This is all wrong. The services which most congressmen can perform for their respective districts are worth more than $5,000. And if by adding $2,500 to this, any district can be assured that its representative is living at the capitol with some show of dignity, it is money well spent. Every man in public life is entitled to a remuneration which will represent more than the cost of living, and we all know it costs more to live in Washington than elsewhere. At first blush the constituents of the men who voted against the increase may approve, but sensible consideration of the question will reveal the error. The people of the United States are liberal in most respects, but in the matter of paying their congressmen, they take a wrong view of it. If they want to give the poor man an equal chance with the rich man to make laws for them, they must provide a salary large enough so that he can live at the capital and save a fair wage.

WITHOUT A PRECEDENT.

The lynching of Ed Johnson which occurred in Chattanooga promises to be a cause celebre. Johnson was condemned to die. His case was appealed to the supreme court of the United States which granted a stay of execution. When the news reached Chattanooga, a mob was organized, Johnson was taken from jail and eyecuted. The supreme court promptly cited the sheriff and other citizens alleged to have been implicated in the outrage to show cause why they shouldn't be punished for contempt. Shipp, the sheriff, denied the court's jurisdiction and that contention has just been decided against him.

When the supreme court granted a stay, Johnson was no longer a prisoner of the state but of the government and his lynching was therefore in the eyes of the law an offense against the United States. Further proceedings in the case will be awaited with interest. There is not, as The Blade understands it, a precedent for a guide, and unquestionably many important propositions touching the somewhat uncertain boundary which is supposed to mark the dividing line between state's rights and federal rights will be considered in the final disposition.

DEAF TO ALL WARNING.

If one-half the stories of Japanese emigration is true, that country bids fair to become depopulated. They are coming to California by the hundred thousand; they are fairly swarming into Hawaii; thousands of them are flocking to the Philippines and a telegram of yesterday announces that hundreds of the little brown men are establishing themselves in Mexico. We haven't heard yet that they have appeared in Canada, but no doubt there will be a colony of them just across the border.

The inspiration for this movement is as evident to those suffering from Japaphobia as is the movement itself. The Japanese do everything thoroughly and in their gigantic task of capturing the United States of America, they do not purpose failing by reason of unpreparedness. Hence they are surrounding us. Japs to the north of us, Japs to the south of us, Japs on all sides of us! No wonder Californians are panic-stricken and Mayor Schmitz has volunteered to enter the service against the Japs. And to think that we in the east refuse to see the approaching cloud; that we scoff when the possibility of a Japanese invasion is suggested!

Minister Aoki may talk of the friendliness of his countrymen for Uncle Sam till he is hoarse, but all the time the clans are gathering in readiness for the final assault. One of these nights we will go to sleep in the full consciousness that we are a free people, and wake up in the morning bound and gagged to find ourselves helpless before a cruel and implacable foe. Yet we cannot claim we have been ambushed. We have had ample warning. The people of San Francisco have anticipated our peril and are pleading with the government to "stop, look and listen." And the government is obstinate and pig-headed. It is so far from the Pacific to Washington that terror is a long time making the journey. Mayhap we are going to be the victims of our stupidity and guilelessness. But at least not all of us are yet afflicted with the horrible nightmare that appears to be consuming the reason of many.

BETTER THAN SAFE BLOWING.

When William J. Atkinson, owner of the Lincoln Bank, at Morton, a suburb of Chicago, needed money he took out a few thousand and put in collateral that he knew to be worthless. State inspectors found a little over $300 in bills and fractional coin when they took possession. But the method only goes to show that some thieves have kept time with progress. It is eminently more respectable to start a bank and then loot it than it is to knock a man down and rifle his pockets. Likewise the returns are larger and surer. We are led to wonder why the professional safe crackers never adopted this plan and discarded the dangerous and old-fashioned way of using dynamite on other people's banks.

PURDY STRIKES PAY DIRT.

Assistant Solicitor General Purdy is having but little difficulty to secure testimony from Brownsville citizens that the raid on the town was made by soldiers from the government barracks. One reputable citizen swears that he saw soldiers fire while they were yet within the enclosure, then scale the wall and start toward the city. This statement is corroborated by his wife. There is other testimony in abundance, and a bullet extracted from the wall of a bedroom is said to be of the pattern used only by the government.

But there has really been no question in the minds of most people that members of the Twenty-fifth infantry were guilty of the outrage. The Constitutional league took the other view of it for a purpose, and Senator Foraker, probably relying on the statement as indicating the possession of knowledge to refute the administration's contention accepted it for the basis of his criticism.

The affair has now been reduced to the question whether, in discharging the soldiers without honor, President Roosevelt exceeded his authority. Finding the courts powerless to punish for the crime actually committed, and believing the example of the rioters detrimental to the service, he could see no other way to enforce discipline and preserve the morale of the army than to dismiss the members of those companies containing the murderous and mutinous element. Before doing so, however, he exhausted every means in his power to ferret out the guilty and permit the innocent to purge themselves.

Senator Foraker denies the right of President Roosevelt to discharge the soldiers without a court-martial, and it is presumed he will support his position by an able discussion of the executive powers under the constitution. Whether he can sustain himself on this feature of the case, The Blade is not prepared to say. The debate, which is promised as a result of the investigation demanded by the senator, should be extremely interesting and instructive, and the conclusion should serve as a precedent for future action. On the surface of things, it would appear absurd that the commander-in-chief is denied the authority to preserve discipline in the army, but on the other hand Senator Foraker is not prone to pick up the hot end of a poker.

GROWTH OF PORTO RICO.

That Porto Rico should not be counted one of Uncle Sam's incumbrances is evidenced from the statement recently issued by the department of labor and commerce. The development of a trade that amounted to $4,000,000 in 1897 to over $40,000,000 is a nine year's record of phenomenal achievement. Considerably over 85 per cent of the island's commerce was transacted with the United States, the balance being in our favor by about $3,000,000. Moreover, the statistics show that Porto Rico has enjoyed the greatest growth of her history under the portection of the stars and stripes.

On his return from his Panama trip President Roosevelt, who stopped off at Porto Rico, expressed himself in favor of extending citizenship to the industrious islanders, and no doubt the record furnished by the department of labor and commerce will have powerful weight with congress when it comes to consider the future status of our wards. Not only are they self-sustaining, but they are adding no little to the revenue of this country. And while they are expanding commercially, they are growing intellectually. The American system of education implanted there has become popular, and there is every indication that the work of assimilation will proceed without interruption. Under the circumstances it would seem that this government has no valid excuse for longer withholding the advantages of citizenship from the loyal and progressive Porto Ricans.

TAFT AND FORAKER.

It is interesting information that comes from Washington concerning Secretary Taft. It is said that he has left the question of his candidacy for the Republican nomination in 1908 to his friends in the various states. If it appears to them that there is any considerable demand for him he will be a candidate. That is in effect the attitude assumed by Senator Foraker. Neither will refuse the nomination, but both feel that it is an honor which should come by virtue of the public will.

Ohio Republicans will accept the situation with pleasure, because it means that this state, as in years past, will be a potential figure in the preconvention campaign. Both Senator Foraker and Secretary Taft have a strong following, and their respective friends can be counted on to put up a game contest. Whatever the issue, whether Senator Foraker or Secretary Taft shall receive the support of the Ohio delegation, there is comfort in the assurance that this state will present to the national convention a candidate well worthy its consideration.

POLICYHOLDERS INDIFFERENT.

Early in the campaign for proxies to be voted in the life insurance election, members of the policyholders' committee laid information before District Attorney Jerome implicating President Peabody, of the Mutual Life, in an alleged effort to coerce policyholders. The district attorney refused to take action on the ground that he didn't wish to do anything which might be interpreted as an attempt to influence the result. Now that the election is over, he has expressed his readiness to push the charges.

Members of the policyholders' committee were much incensed when the district attorney paid no heed to the complaint because they believed the laws governing the election were being violated. It was charged that Peabody and other insurance officials interested in a victory for the present administrations, were using their authority over agents to compel co-operation and were diverting funds of the policyholders to meet the expenses incurred in their campaign. In at least one instance it was shown that agents who refused to obey the orders of the administration, were discharged.

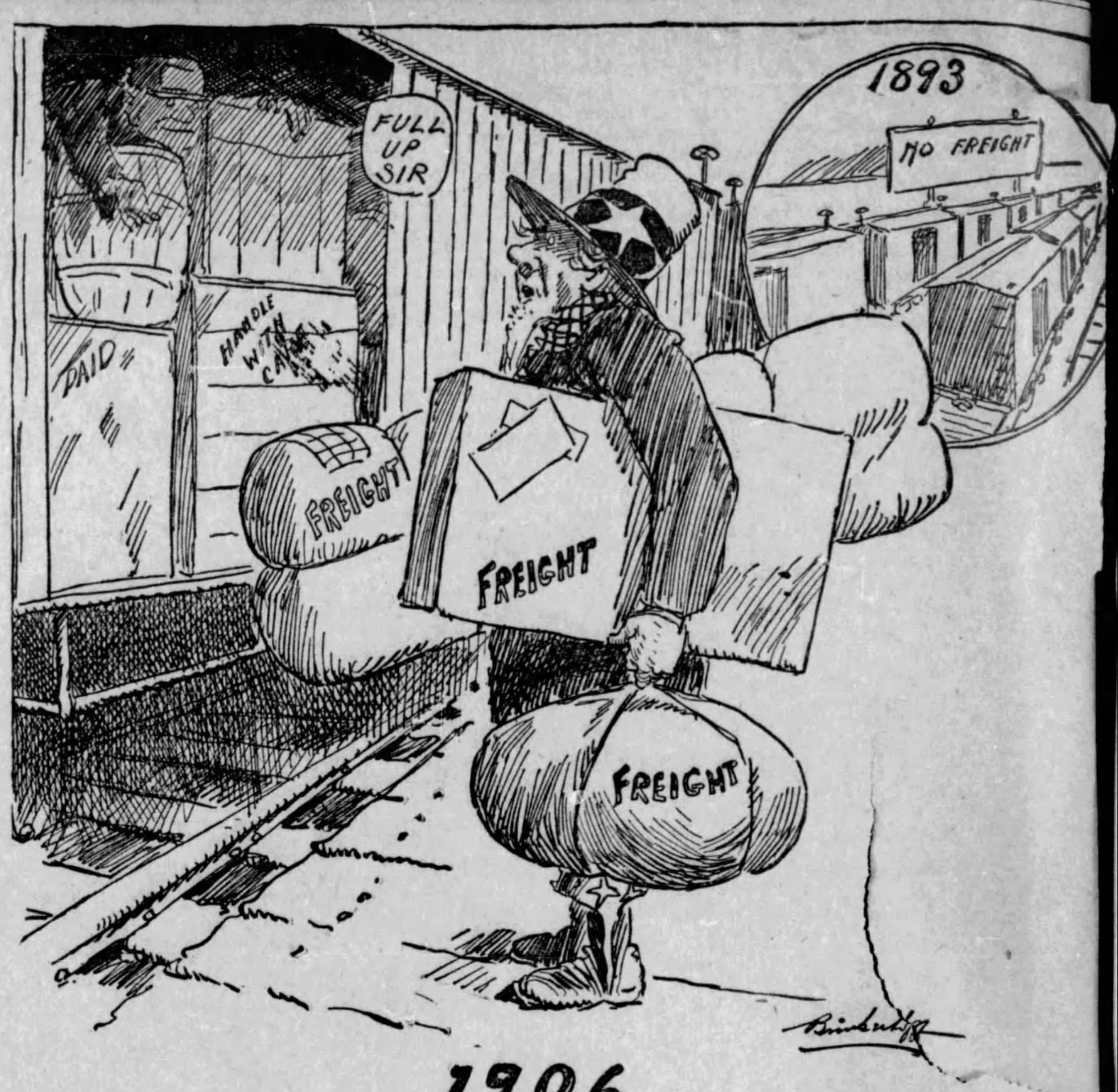
But failing to interest the district attorney in time to prevent alleged fraud the policyholders' committee is not disposed to assume the role of prosecuting witness. If Mr. Jerome purposes pushing the investigation, he can do so on his own responsibility, but the policyholders who were aiming to secure a new deal have lost heart now that the election is a thing of the past.

NATIONAL HEALTH BOARD.

The Yale professor who has launched a proposition having for its object the creation of a national board of health, will not find it difficult to secure public approval if he works toward practical ends. There is no more important subject than the health of the people, and yet it is amazing how indifferent we have been to it. In recent years several states have organized health bureaus and most municipalities have their health boards, but in these days of travel there are some features of the work that can best be conducted by the national government, and we presume that is what the professor has in mind.

Even the rigid enforcement of local quarantines are not a safeguard against the spread of epidemics, and there is a general lack of uniformity in the methods employed in various sections for combatting disease. If the government should establish a department and place it in charge of eminent physicians and surgeons, we do not suppose that the purpose would be to interfere with the state functions, but rather to supplement them and by the force of experience bring about in time a systematic warfare in all parts of the country on tuberculosis and other diseases that are materially affecting our mortality rate.

When it comes to a question of too much prosperity, every man thinks the other fellow should be the one to stop raking it in.



1906

TIMES HAVE CHANGED

GREAT SOLDIERS' LOVE LETTERS.

In Some Cases Worth More Than In Others.

"Those who scoff at the idea of love long surviving matrimony," said Lord Roberts recently, "should read some of the letters written by the world's greatest soldiers to their wives after years of life together. For tenderness and deep affection these letters penned by men whose life, one would think, left little room for sentiment, may well challenge comparison with the effusions of the most ardent lover in the halcyon days of courtship." How true is this statement by a great soldier who is himself still as ardent a lover of his wife as he was nearly fifty years ago, the following examples will prove:

To his last day there were few more devoted husbands than Prince Bismarck, that grimest of soldiers, who, to the world, was known as the "Man of Iron." Indeed, the letters written to his wife, many of them amid scenes of carnage and all the horrors of war, are among the most beautiful in any language. "My beloved heart," "my dear heart," "my love," "my angel," "my eighteen-year beloved heart," "my heart's Nanne," "my beloved Nan," "my little dear"—his letters are crowded with these and countless similar pet names, while every letter, to the very last, breathes the most charming and tender devotion.

"My angel," he writes, "if I only had you here and could take you with me! My angel, when shall we see each other again? Would that I could hold you in my arms for only one moment, and tell you how I love you, and beg you to pardon me for what evil I have ever done you, my sweetheart." "Last night I grew so sad and sick with longing that I had to weep when I lay in bed." "The prolonged separation is very distressing. * * * What are all festivities and gifts to me if you fall ill? Misery would then take the place of joy." "The place is really splendid; it only lacks you, my angel, so that I might enjoy this prospect with you; then it would be quite perfect." "Do write to me very often; it is my only ray of light here when I see a letter from you, which forms the long, thin thread of communication between my love and me; otherwise I live here simply like a machine." These are extracts taken quite at random from two volumes full of similar evidences of the deep, passionate love which this stern arbiter of Europe carried through all the long years of his happy wedded life.

Marlborough's letters to his beloved duchess, Sarah, reveal a similar passion. "I do love and adore you with all my heart and soul," he writes, "so much that by all that is good I do and will ever be better pleased with your happiness than with my own; but, oh! my soul, if we might be both happy, what inexpressible joy that would be! I will not dare to expect more favor than you shall think fit to give me; but if you could love me, I think the happiness would be so great that it would make me immortal." And again: "I am impatient to have you with me; do not lose a moment in coming to him who adores you above his own soul."

Napoleon's letters to his wife, Josephine, are similarly infused with all the ardor of the passionate lover. "I have arrived at this place, my dearest love," he writes, "and my first thought is of writing to you. Your health and your image have occupied all my thoughts on the way thither. I shall not be at ease till I receive letters from you. I expect them with the greatest eagerness. It is impossible to describe to you my impatience. I feel dull, sad and half-sick. If the deepest and tenderest love can make you happy, you ought to be so. I am overwhelmed with business. Adieu, my dear Josephine. Love me. Take care of yourself, and think often, very often of me."

Stonewall Jackson's letetrs to his wife are equally full of the tenderest endearment. He calls her "my pet," "my sunshine," "my little somebody," "my darling," and his dying words to her were: "Cheer up, Anne! you know I love a bright face in a sick room, Speak distinctly; I want to hear every word you say."

Olliver Cromwell was to the last his wife's adoring lover. Thirty years after he led Elizabeth Bourchier to the atlar he wrote to her: "Truly, if I love you not too well, I think I err not on the other hand much. Thou art dearer to me than any creature; let that suffice." And she answers in similar strain: "Truly, my life is but half a life in your absence."

Nelson's letters to his wife prove that a sailor can be as loving a husband as a soldier. After eleven years of wedded life he wrote: "Rest assured of my most perfect love, affection and esteem for your person and character, which, the more I see of the world, the more I admire." "My dearest Fanny, absent from you I feel no pleasure; it is you who are everything to me. Without you I care not for this world. These are my present sentiments. God Almighty grant that they may never change! Nor do I think they will. Indeed, there is, as far as human knowledge can judge, a moral certainty that they cannot." And Lord Collingwood, Nelson's friend, thus wrote to his beloved life partner the year after Trafalgar: "This day, my love, is the anniversary of our marriage, and I wish for many returns of it. If ever we have peace I hope to spend my latter days amid my family, which is the only sort of happiness I enjoy. To be by your side is heaven to me."

Current Events.

Henry C. Frick is likely to succeed President Cassatt of the Pennsylvania railroad system.

Milwaukee physician declares that the death of a schoolgirl from tetanus was the result of vaccination.

James J. Hill announces that he will retire from active business July 1, and will be succeeded by his son in control of enterprises.

Professor Jenks, of Cornell, speaking at Providence, R. I., declares stock watering, though legal, is far worse than illegal rebating.

Benjamin Brown, financial manager of the United States Express company in New York, shoots himself twice in suicide attempt.

Professor Ely, of University of Wisconsin, commends Roosevelt's inheritance tax plan to cure swollen fortunes, but says it is only one of many.

Illinois State Teachers' association may make an effort to get the licensing of teachers taken from the control of county superintendents.

A court decision that the late former Senator Brown secured defining the rights of natural children will be cited in the contest to break his will.

Former employe of Kansas City bank who stole $9,000 from the institution, upon being sentenced, says he does not know why he committed the crime.

Commissioner of Immigration Sargent says there are fewer Japanese in Hawaii than two years ago and that plantation labor is scarce in the islands.

Sixteen persons die in wreck in Scotland due to deep snow and many others are injured; trains buried in drifts in worst storm in 30 years in Britain.

Another Milwaukee boodler pleads guilty and is fined, former Supervisor August Puls admitting that he received $50 for his vote and agreed to accept $50 more.

Rumors of a plot to dethrone King Peter of Servia are rife and the premier receives letters intimating that murder will end the reign of the present dynasty.

Representative Gaines, of Tennessee, says he has unearthed an old statute forbidding congressmen to receive pay for the time they are absent from their duties.

Decks are cleared at Washington for a great struggle over President Roosevelt's discharge of the negro troops, and an unusually exciting debate in the senate is looked for.

Was it an apple of a lemon that Eve handed to Adam? American Modern Language association debates the question at its meeting in New Haven and decides it wasn't a lemon.

Records of Chicago Federation of Labor, stricken from Shea trial, contain enough evidence against every member of that organization to send him to prison, says State's Attorney Miller.

More Christmas fetes for children than ever before mark the present holiday season in Chicago, it being estimated that 25,000 little ones have been made happy by various organizations.

Mrs. Russell Sage gives out a statement in New York saying residents of other cities need not apply for aid from her, and that she will be in no hurry to distribute her wealth to charity.

John D. Rockefeller, although fond of oysters, feels he cannot afford to buy them, says a speaker at the meeting in New York of the American association for the Advancement of Science.

National congress in India, in session at Calcutta, cheers the declaration by a speaker that the people should demand home rule, the same as granted the Boers, whom they helped to conquer.

Summary of Archbishop Ireland's speech on the Franco-Vatican dispute displeases the papal authorities, who see in the document a reflection on the policy of Pope Pius in the praise accorded Leo XIII.

Five-year-old child, whose mother claims he is the son of a nephew of George M. Pullman, and who will receive $50,000 in Pullman stock on his majority, is found freezing and in rags in New York.

William E. Curtis says that Siberia is to aid the farms in the semi-arid regions of America by furnishing valuable new plants which flourish in the cold, dry belt there and yield good returns.

Secretary Root says the state department will take no action in regard to the Congo beyond urging the Belgian government to do everything in its power to ameliorate the condition of the blacks.

Justice Bischoff, at New York, sustains "Judge" Andrew Hamilton's demurrers to the suits of the New York Life to compel him to account for $574,250, but holds he must account for $75,000 given him to pay taxes.

Professor Edward A. Ross of the University of Wisconsin, at a meeting of educators at Providence, R. I., champions race suicide, declaring that its tendency to eradicate poverty outweighs the possibility of future national decline.

Injunction to prevent the Great Northern Railroad company, James J. Hill and the other officers of the road from proceeding with the proposed $60,000,000 increase of stock is asked at St. Paul by Attorney General Young, who alleges violation of the law.

Drastic action, which may mean seizure of a railroad, is threatened by Governor Gooding, of Idaho, in a letter to Interstate Commerce Commissioner Lane. The executive blames the entire coal famine in his state on the Oregon Short Line, which, he says, simply seeks big dividends.

WONDERS OF SOMNAMBULIS

Sleepwalkers Who Had More Po in Trance Than in Normal State

Prof. Pierre Janet of the Paris S bonne in McCoy Hall of the Jo Hopkins University recently delive a lecture on "Mind and Medicine," dealt with hysteria, particularly t form of hysteria which evidences self in somnambulism, says the Ba more News.

"I will ask you to consider one the most typical and characteri symptoms of hysteria, and that is s nambulism," he said. "To underst it well is, I believe, to understand hysterical phases that are more or constructed on the same model.

"What is somnambulism? Popu ly, a somnambulist is an individ who thinks and acts while he is asle That answer is not very clear, for do not know very well what sleep You will find nowhere a more bea ful description of the popular idea somnambulism than in Shakespea tragedy of Macbeth. Modern exa ples are much less dramatic but y will let me cite a few which h come under my observation:

"There is a young woman, 29 ye old, whom I will call 'Gib.' She he one day that her niece, who lived n door, had thrown herself out of window in a fit of delirium. She rus down stairs and was confronted w the sight of the body in the str After the first shock she seemed be but little moved, prepared the bo for the funeral, and was quiet a calm. But from that time on she g more and more gloomy. Nearly ev day now she enters into a stra trance. She seems as if asleep and speaks softly to her niece, calling h by name, Pauline. She tells her t she admires her courage, that h death was a beautiful one. She rises goes to the window, opens it and her friends did not stop her wo undoubtedly throw herself into street.

"Another case, a woman 35 ye old, who was frightened by a lion at the Zoo. She was thrown in a lirium which lasted eight days, since then she repeats these fits of lirium. She walks on all fours, rus on people, tries to bite them, seizes photographs of children chews them up, and acts altogether if she herself were a lioness.

"There is a man of 30, with b legs paralyzed, who has been an valid for years. In the night he rise slowly from his bed, takes his pillo and hugs it close, walks out of room, through a court yard and climb to the top of the house. His friends have difficulty in reaching him, for the moment he awakes his legs becom paralyzed again. When awakened does not understand how he reached the housetop and why he man sick with palsy, should have b carried there.

"Again there is a girl, made ill despair at her mother's death. S lived in a garret, and for two mo before the mother's death the girl under great strain, tending her mo and earning her living at the se machine. After the old lady's d the girl tried to revive the body, lift it to a sitting position and appeal to it. She now has the singular h of acting these scenes over a while in a somnambulistic state. actress could rehearse those lugu ous scenes with such perfection."

BORROWING IN CHINA.

An American woman who had g to live in Shanghai was compelled, after her arrival, to entertain s important business associates of husband's. Her finest china, glass, so forth had not yet arrived from States. Nevertheless, she determined give a dinner and called in her "Num one boy."

"Now, boy," she said impressiv "I entertain three gentlemen at di tomorrow, very fine gentlemen. make it all best possible. Must be everything."

Bowing and scraping, he went o inform the other seven servants.

The next evening, as she ushered friends into the dining hall, she ga in amazement. Before was a spread with the most exquisite cut glass, silver, and delicate Over it all hung a gorgeous cut g chandelier. Course after course served as if by magic.

The instant she could leave guests she sought her "Number boy."

"Boy, boy!" she exclaimed, "wh you get such beautiful things?"

The boy beamed with satisfa "Everything very nice, best possi Me very good friend Russian am sador's 'Number one boy.' Russian bassador go out to dinner. Me bo Very nice, very nice!"

The Wonderful Chinese.

Big Osh, emperor of China, and of the Bing dynasty, was famous number of things in which he a our present civilization.

One day, after sitting awhi thought, he called his equerr "Harness Niagara," he briefly.

And it was done.

Of course, it is with no to detract from the s achievement, incredible a seems, that we add the Niagara was the emperc —Exchange.

WATCHES

The Blade's Revised List for 1906-7—18 and 16 Sizes.

During the past season we have had so many inquiries from our readers for prices on 16 size watches, that we have included them in our list this season.

The 16 size watch is now the popular size for men and boys, being very much lighter in weight, smaller in size, and thinner than the 18 size.

With the exception of the 3-O size watches, which are Dueber-Hampden movements, we shall handle this season only Waltham and Elgin movements. The reputation and reliability of these movements are so well known to our readers that they need no further recommendation from us.

The cases used in our watches this season are the very best grade of 25-year and 20-year gold filled cases on the market. We make no extra charge this season for hand engraved cases in the 25-year grade.

We guarantee everything we offer you to be just exactly as represented,

And you will find our prices lower than you can purchase the same quality for elsewhere.

The Waltham and Elgin watches are all stem wind and stem set. The 3-O size Dueber-Hampden watches are stem wind and lever set. The 3-O size watches are the smallest ladies' watches made. They are very dainty and may be worn as chatelaines.

All Watches are sent by registered mail.

We can supply any movement made by the Waltham or Elgin companies, and will be pleased to quote prices.

This offer is intended only for Blade subscribers. We desire to give our subscribers the advantage of the best quality of everything at the very lowest price.

MOVEMENTS.

Nickel—Fifteen jewels (settings); quick train; exposed pallets; cut expansion balance; Breguet hairspring; polished oval regulator; sunk second dial; nickel index; dust ring; damaskeened plates.

Nickel—Seven jewels; quick train; exposed pallets; cut expansion balance; Breguet hairspring; polished oval steel regulator; sunk second dial; nickel index; dust ring; damaskeened plates.

Men's Watches

No. 100—18 size, 25-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $14.00

No. 101—18 size, 25-year open-face, 7-jeweled works $11.50

No. 102—16 size, 25-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $15.00

No. 103—16 size, 25-year open-face, 7-jeweled works $12.25

No. 104—18 size, 25-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $15.50

No. 105—18 size, 25-year open-face, 15-jeweled works $12.50

No. 106—16 size, 25-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $17.00

No. 107—16 size, 25-year open-face, 15-jeweled works ... $14.50

No. 108—18 size, 20-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $12.50

No. 109—18 size, 20-year open-face, 7-jeweled works $9.75

No. 110—16 size, 20-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $12.75

No. 111—16 size, 20-year open-face, 7-jeweled works $10.00

No. 112—18 size, 20-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $13.50

No. 113—18 size, 20-year open-face, 15-jeweled works $10.50

No. 114—16 size, 20-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $15.00

No. 115—16 size, 20-year open-face, 15-jeweled works ... $12.50

Nickel Silver Cases

No. 116—18 size, 7-jeweled works $5.30

No. 117—16 size, 7-jeweled works $6.75

No. 118—18 size, 15-jeweled works $6.60

No. 119—16 size, 15-jeweled works $8.75

Ladies' 6 Size

No. 120—25-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $12.50

No. 121—25-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works ... $13.50

No. 122—20-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $11.00

No. 123—20-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works ... $12.25

Ladies' O Size

No. 124—25-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $14.00

No. 125—25-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works ... $17.50

No. 126—20-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $13.00

No. 127—20-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works ... $16.50

Ladies' 3-O Size

No. 128—"The 400" 25-year hunting case, 17-jeweled, Dueber-Hampden works $18.50

No. 129—"The Diadem," 25-year hunting case, 15-jeweled, Dueber-Hampden works $15.00

No. 130—"Molly Stark," 25-year hunting case, 7-jeweled, Dueber-Hampden works $13.75

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The Hicks Almanac

FOR 1907

Be Prepared for All Storms, Blizzards, Drouths, Tornadoes and Great Extremes of Temperature by Having a Hicks Almanac for 1907.

The Rev. Irl R. Hicks Almanac now has an international reputation. For more than 13 years all storms, blizzards, drouths, tornadoes, floods and great extremes of temperature have been foretold by Professor Hicks, and close observers declare that more than 95 per cent. of his predictions have been verified. He foretold the great Galveston storm of Sept. 8, 1900, in his 1900 Almanac, issued in the fall of 1899; he foretold the great volcanic eruption of Mont Pelee, Martinique, of May 8, 1902, in his 1902 Almanac, issued in the fall of 1901; he foretold the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and the series of earthquakes that culminated in the disaster at San Francisco in April, 1906. Each of these great events was foretold from six months to nine month before it occurred. It will foretell every storm, cold wave, hot wave, tornado or blizzard which will come in 1907. It is a neatly printed book in stiff paper covers, and will contain a large number of beautiful half-tone engravings.

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Almanac and Weekly Blade 1 year..60c

THE BLADE,
Toledo, O.

Cut Paper Patterns

PARIS PATTERNS.

The cut paper patterns now offered to our readers are furnished by the Paris Modes Co., of New York, and are the best, latest and most perfect patterns offered by any newspaper using cut paper patterns.

These patterns provide for the allowance of all seams; are easy, simple and practical to use, and perfect in fit. If the correct size is selected, a garment may be cut and made to fit perfectly without any alteration.

These patterns will be mailed to any address at only 10 cents each. In ordering, address your letter, "Pattern Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio." Inclose 10 cents in silver for each pattern ordered.

Please do NOT send stamps. Inclose a silver dime wrapped in tissue paper. Once more, do NOT send stamps. They stick together, and it is difficult to dispose of them, unless at a discount.

Write very plainly the NUMBER and the NAME of each pattern, as it appears under the cut, and also the BUST MEASURE you wish.

BE SURE to give both the number and the name of the pattern, and the bust measure also.

Address as follows, including price of pattern ordered. Pattern Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—Notice that the price, 10 cents, is for a SINGLE pattern. Many of these show TWO patterns in an illustration. In such cases, either will be sent on receipt of 10 cents, coin, or both on receipt of two silver dimes.

Misses' Three-Piece Tucked Skirt—Paris Pattern No. 1639—All Seams Allowed.

This smart looking skirt is tucked in clusters to some distance below the belt, the fulness from the released tucks falling free in soft, pretty folds. A front-gore and two wide portions that join in a seam at the middle of the back form the skirt, the wide portions being enough circular to give a modish flare toward the edge.

The skirts will develop stylishly in cloths, silks, tissues, and all varieties of dress goods. Braid, ribbon, insertion, folds or bands may be used for trimming, if desired.

The pattern is in 3 sizes—13 to 17 years. For a miss of 15 years the skirt will need 6½ yards of goods 20 inches wide, or 4 yards 36 inches wide, or 3⅝ yards 42 inches wide, or 2¾ yards 54 inches wide.

Price of pattern, 10 cents.

Misses' Tucked Waist, With Elbow Sleeves, High or Low Neck and With or Without Bretelles—Paris Pattern No. 1643—All Seams Allowed.

This is a charming style of waist to use in a party or dancing frock and is very simple in construction. It may be made high or low-necked, as preferred, the high-necked waist having a deep square yoke finished with a standing collar. At the front and back the waist is stitched in small short tucks below the neck. Bretelles of handsome embroidery give distinction to the waist. Elbow sleeves with shaped arm-bands of embroidery stand out prettily in puffs at the top under the bretelles and are stitched in vertical tucks above the bands.

A simpler effect may be produced by omitting the bretelles, but these accessories are always becoming. On voile, silk or soft dress goods, the bretelles are lovely made of flowered or fancy ribbon.

The pattern is in 3 sizes—13 to 17 years. For a miss of 15 years the waist will need 4 yards of material 20 inches wide, or 2¼ yards 36 inches wide, or 1⅞ yards 42 inches wide, or 1½ yards 54 inches wide.

Price of pattern, 10 cents.

Girls' Yoke Apron, With High or Low Neck—Paris Pattern No. 1627—All Seams Allowed.

A pretty all-cover apron that could also do service as a dress during play hours is here shown made of a figured percale. The upper part is a yoke that is square at the back and pointed in front, and the skirt is gathered to the yoke and falls loose like a slip to the bottom of the dress. Buttons and buttonholes close the apron at the back to the waist. Bell straps with pointed ends extend from the under-arm seams and are crossed at the end of the closing and secured with a button and buttonhole. Pointed patch pockets stitched on the front will prove convenient and attractive. The neck may be high with a pretty turn-down collar or it may be cut low and finished with a little frill or with a facing. Long bishop sleeves are protective, but the apron may be made without sleeves, if preferred.

The pattern is in six sizes—2 to 12 years. For a girl of 6 years, the apron will need 4⅛ yards of material 27 inches wide, or 2¾ yards 36 inches wide.

Price of pattern, 10 cents.

Ladies' Seven-Gored Skirt, With or Without an Under Box-Plait at Center-Back Seam and Side-Plaits Below Hip at all Other Seams—Paris Pattern No. 1650—All Seams Allowed.

A new seven-gored skirt with a novel arrangement of plaits is here portrayed made of Henrietta cloth. The gores are shaped to give the necessary close adjustment about the hips and flare toward the foot, the plaits also widening gradually to add to the flaring lines. The plaits are in pairs at each seam, one plait in each pair reaching to the belt while the other extends in lap effect at the top below the hip-line, a button being placed in the corner. All the plaits are stitched the proper distance below the hip-line to retain the close effect. An inverted box-plait is at the back.

This style of skirt is used in gowns for formal day wear and also for general wear. It develops handsomely in velvets, silks, cloths and all sorts of thick or thin dress goods.

The pattern is in 7 sizes—22 to 34 inches, waist measure. For 26 waist, the skirt will need 10½ yards of material, 20 inches wide, or 5½ yards, 36 inches wide, or 5¼ yards 42 inches wide, or 4 yards 54 inches wide.

Price of pattern, 10 cents.

Girls' Dress, With Round Yoke—Paris Pattern No. 1645—All Seams Allowed.

Simple frocks are smartest for the younger girls, whether for school, party or general wear. A charming model is here illustrated made of plaid dress goods, combined with plain red cloth and all-over white lace. The lace is used for the pretty round yoke forming the upper part of the full body, which is gathered top and bottom and joined to a narrow belt of the red cloth. The straight full skirt is gathered to the same belt. A shaped band of the red cloth follows the lower edges of the yoke, the pointed ends being lapped under buttons at the left side of the front.

The pattern is in four sizes—6 to 12 years. For a girl of 10 years the dress needs 7 yards of material 20 inches wide, or 3¾ yards 36 inches wide, or 3⅜ yards 42 inches wide.

Price of pattern, 10 cents.

Ladies' Fancy Waist, With High or Low Neck, Elbow Sleeves, Detached Half-Sleeves and Body Lining—Paris Pattern No. 1636—All Seams Allowed.

A beautiful waist combining in a most fetching way suggestions of both the Princess and Empire modes is here portrayed developed in pale-rose messaline and all-over lace. It is built on a perfectly fitted, boned lining, that ends at the bottom of the wide, crush girdle, which is deeply pointed at the center of the front and curved prettily across the back. The full portion of the waist is joined to the top of the girdle and along the seam is sewed a perfectly fitting band, that laps over the girdle and curves high at the back. A round, low-necked yoke joins the top of the full portions, and above it is seen a deep, high-necked yoke of all-over lace that is finished with a standing collar. The waist may be made low-necked for evening wear. In tissues, soft silks and woolens, and also in velvet and velveteen, this is an exquisite model for formal afternoon and evening wear.

The pattern is in five sizes—32 to 40 inches, bust measure. For 36 bust, the waist requires 5 yards of material 20 inches wide, or 2½ yards 36 inches wide, or 2¼ yards 42 inches wide.

Price of pattern, 10 cents.

Misses' and Girls' Bath Robe—Paris Pattern No. 1625—All Seams Allowed.

This simple, pretty bath robe may be easily made up at home of Turkish toweling, elderdown or striped, checked, figured or plain flannel, a blanket or any other preferred material. The seamless back and loose fronts are smooth across the shoulders and are full enough in the skirt to be both comfortable and graceful. The fronts lap widely and close with cord ornaments, and a cord girdle is pretty about the waist. Ribbon may be used instead, if preferred. The neck is slightly low at the throat and a large sailor collar with broad flaring ends is a jaunty finish. A band of striped goods follows the edges of the collar and the front edges of the robe and also trims the bottom of the pretty bell-shaped sleeves. Warmth and comfort are first considerations in a garment of this style, which, however, may be pretty as well, if neatly made of well-chosen material.

The pattern is in 5 sizes—9 to 17 years. For a miss 13 years the robe requires 6¼ yards of material 27 inches wide, or 4⅛ yards 36 inches wide, or 3¾ yards 42 inches wide, or 2¾ yards 60 inches wide.

Price of pattern, 10 cents.

FOR SPEEDIER PROMOTION

Postal Service Is Losing Best Men.

Washington, Dec. 31.—Failure at this time to increase materially the compensation of postoffice employes, thus keeping pace with the advancing wages in other lines of employment, will seriously jeopardize the efficiency of the service.

This statement is taken from the annual report of First Assistant Postmaster General Hitchcock. The need of new legislation to make the postal service more attractive in order to retain present employes and as an inducement for good men to enter the service is treated extensively by Mr. Hitchcock, who presents a plan for the consideration of congress.

Higher wages in other classes of employment taken with the increased cost of living have rendered pronounced the inadequacy of postoffice salaries. As a result the resignations from the service have increased at an alarming rate and the standard of men going into the service has greatly deteriorated in the last fiscal year. Mr. Hitchcock's report shows that in first and second class offices there were approximately 20,000 clerks in the grades ranging from $600 to $1,000, and of these clerks 2,340, or about 12.3 per cent, resigned during the year. Of 23,000 letter carriers attached to these offices 601, or 2.6 per cent voluntarily left the service.

Statistics for the quarter ended Sept. 30 last and for the month of October are evening more striking. During the quarter 929 clerks and 205 carriers resigned, while incomplete returns for October showed the resignation of 356 clerks and 81 carriers. From 12.3 per cent for the fiscal year the annual rate of resignation on the part of the clerks advanced to 18.56 per cent for the quarter ended Sept. 30 and to 20.8 per cent for the month of October. In the case of carriers the annual rate of resignation, which was 2.6 for the fiscal year, rose to 3.5 for the quarter and to 4.1 per cent for October.

The figures for October last show that clerks were leaving the service at an annual rate of one in every five.

After a careful study of the problem of devising a satisfactory scale of salaries applicable to clerks and carriers alike, this plan has been suggested by Mr. Hitchcock: Establishing for both of these classes of employes six grades of compensation, the annual salary to be $600 for the initial grade, $800 for the second grade and for the four succeeding grades, $900, $1,000, $1,100 and $1,200 respectively; and of providing for the advancement of clerks and carriers in first class offices from the $600 initial grade to $800 after one year's service, to $900 after two years' services, and to $1,000 after three years' service; and for the advancement of clerks and carriers in second class offices to $800 after one year's service and to $900 after two years' service.

The proposed plan leaves to the department the distribution of promotions, based on efficiency, above the $1,000 grade in first class offices and above the $900 grade in second class offices, the extent of such promotions being limited, of course, by the appropriations provided. The several grades ranging from $900 and $1,000 to $1,200 will not only make it possible to reward exceptionally faithful and efficient men throughout the clerical and carrier service, but they will enable the department to raise the standard of remuneration when demanded by local conditions.

"The main features of the salary just outlined," says the report, "are, first, the establishment of the clerical and carrier services on exactly the same footing as to rate of compensation and opportunity for promotion; second, the enforcement of the important principle that promotions in both services shall be made only on satisfactory evidence of efficiency; and, third, the creation of certain grades above the maximum salaries reached by annual progression that can be utilized by the department to adjust salaries in accordance with varying local conditions."

The suggestion is made that a fixed rate of 30 cents an hour be paid for all sub work, whether for employes absent with or without temporary service.

It is proposed to grant 30 days' annual leave to postoffice clerks and carriers, instead of 15 days as at present, thus placing the employes of the postoffice department on an equality with other government employes. It is shown that the overtime served daily by postoffice clerks, figuring on an eight hour basis, for the month of October last, was 43.19 minutes and Mr. Hitchcock urges that a sufficient number of clerks be employed to keep the work day as near eight hours as possible.

Suspensions of employes are not favored by Mr. Hitchcock and he urges that this system of punishing infractions of regulations be abolished. He says: "Suspensions place the government in the position of enforcing idleness, whereas its purpose should be to encourage industry. The effect of suspension upon an employe is anything but beneficial, and when his duties have to be performed in the meantime by an inexperienced sub, as is frequently the case, it works a detriment to the service as well. No employe should be suspended except for a flagrant offense, such as intoxication, and then the period of suspension should be as brief as possible, terminating as soon as the case can be settled and a suitable penalty imposed."

There will be submitted with the report of Mr. Hitchcock a draft of a bill embodying the various features of the plan for the regulation of salaries, the annual leave, and the hours of service of postoffice employes.

JOHN D. MISUNDERSTOOD

He Feels, However, It Is by th Grace of God.

New York, Dec. 31.—Discussing the subject of centralization in business, John D. Rockefeller said yesterday:

"It is natural that the man who drove the stage coach should be antagonistic to the railroad and that the man who used to keep the small inn should look with disfavor upon the big, magnificent hotels. But it was progress; it had to come and for a while it was a hardship for these men to adapt themselves to the new conditions. They had my sympathy, I assure you, but we all must continually meet new conditions and adapt ourselves to them. It can't be otherwise.

"Of course I am sorry that I am so misunderstood, but I have the best feelings for everybody. I bear ill to no one and it is a great thing to think that this is so by the grace of God."

AGED BARONESS IS DEAD

She Lived During Reigns of Five British Sovereigns.

London, Dec. 31.—Baroness Burdett-Coutts, who has been ill at her residence here since Christmas eve, is dead.

The death of Baroness Burdett-Coutts occurring at the age of 92 years, besides depriving the country of one of its greatest and most famous philanthropists, removes from London a unique personality and an interesting social figure. As a link with the almost forgotten past, her life beginning during the reign of the Emperor Napoleon, she lived during the reigns of five British sovereigns. Inheriting an immense fortune, she so used it as to die beloved by the whole nation.

SENATOR CAFFERY DEAD.

New Orleans, La., Dec. 31.—Former United States Senator Donelson L. Caffery died last night. The body will be taken to his home in Franklin, La., on a special train.

DEATH OF T. M. BOWEN.

Pueblo, Colo., Dec. 31.—Thomas M. Bowen, formerly United States senator from Colorado, died yesterday, aged 71 years. He was prominent in state politics for many years as a Republican.

FREE-CURES Nervous Debility, Stomach Troubles, Weak Heart, Weak "Manhood," Paleness, Impure, Thin Blood, Run Down Health, Weakening Diseases of Men and Women.

No other treatment will give to weak men such powerful strength as Vitaline tablets—let us prove it free.

Just send name and address to-day for free treatment of Vitaline, question blank, book and read what those say who have taken this wonderful medicine which they praise and thank for making them strong, vigorous and healthy, saving their lives, after specialists and other medicines failed. Write them yourself. The quick results of Vitaline will surprise you, and you will bless the day you wrote for it. Don't think you will be deceived; this is your greatest opportunity to be cured, and we prove it free. Dr. Rainey writes you, and you get nothing but the medicine and a plain sealed envelope. Vitaline is harmless and pleasant to take. Dr. Rainey Medicine Co., Dept. No. 34 Chicago.

DISFIGURED WITH ECZEMA.

Brushed Scales from Face Like Powder—Under Physicians Grew Worse—Cuticura Works Wonders.

"I suffered with eczema six months. I had tried three doctors, but did not get any better. It was on my body and on my feet so thick that I could hardly put a pin on me without touching eczema. My face was covered, my eyebrows came out, and then it got in my eye. I then went to another doctor. He asked me what I was taking for it, and I told him Cuticura. He said that was a very good thing, but that he thought that my face would be marked for life. But Cuticura did its work, and my face is now just as clear as it ever was. I told all my friends about my remarkable cure. I feel so thankful I want everybody far and wide to know what Cuticura can do. It is a sure cure for eczema. Mrs. Emma White, 641 Cherrier Place, Camden, N. J., April 25, 1905."

LABEL MUST TELL TRUTH

Food Mysteries Are Now at an End.

Washington, Dec. 31.—The pure food law goes into effect throughout the United States tomorrow. It is interesting to note that in this case, as in the case of so many similar laws, the greatest amount of good has been done by the enactment before it has actually been put into effect.

The manufacturers and dealers of the United States, ever since the law was passed, have been putting themselves in complete readiness for Jan. 1. at which time it was to go into effect. The great value of the law has been from its moral effect rather than from the fear of punishment, and it is this which has made it one of the most valuable laws ever put on the statute books.

Present indications are there will be little or no necessity for any prosecutions. The manufacturers of all sorts of food products have become convinced that the mere threat of prosecution by the department of agriculture or the publication of the fact that they were violating the law would do them harm a thousand fold more in value than the saving they might accomplish by the use of adulterated goods or deceptive labels.

As a result, the manufacturers of food products have of their own motion revised their labels, stopped the use of deleterious chemicals, and in every way have endeavored to put their products in such shape that not even the suspicion of official inquiry will damage their reputation.

This movement has been voluntary on the part of the manufacturers and dealers. Thousands upon thousands of letters have been sent in to the department of agriculture asking for rulings, suggestions, and tentative decisions as to how labels should be changed to meet new conditions. In many cases the representatives of firms and factories have traveled long distances and spent considerable time in Washington in conference with Secretary Wilson and Dr. Wiley.

The result is little short of remarkable, when there is taken into consideration the fact that misbranding of food products was so common a year ago that it was hardly noticed even by the most reputable dealers. Great packers did not hesitate to put up beef in cans and label it turkey. Manufacturers of fruits and table delicacies saw no wrong in the use of preservatives and dyes whose injurious effect on the system was known to every one.

Yet it is believed to be true that in about six months, and in advance of the actual operation of the law, the real crime of adulteration and misbranding has been practically abandoned throughout the United States. As Dr. Wiley, chief of the bureau of chemistry said:

"Before the law has gone into effect the crime of misbranding has practically ceased. The use of colors in food has also been nearly abandoned, and preservatives have been restricted to one or more items only and given up in every other case. So it happens that long in advance of Jan. 1, the law has actually become effective, not by the action of the courts or the department of agriculture, but by the voluntary initiative of the manufacturers."

DEAF TO OWNERSHIP CRY

West Fails to Take to Bryan's Project.

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 31.—Just how little the west really cares about the government ownership of railroads is shown by the almost total failure of the efforts of prominent Populists and Democrats to inaugurate a movement in that direction intended to be national in scope, and which had been widely advertised by personal invitation to have its origin at a meeting to be held in Omaha on December 27.

The meeting was held and a temporary organization formed. At the meeting when it was called to order were 41 men. Later arrivals increased this number to 76. Although the meeting had been advertised as "nonpartisan" in character, almost the entire membership was made up of Populists, with a sprinkling of Democrats and Socialists and one lone Republican. The lone Republican received the vice presidency for his temerity in attending, while the presidency of the "Nebraska Government Ownership League" went to M. F. Harrington, a Populist lawyer and politician, of the northern part of Nebraska.

It was announced in the invitation that this was not a club for furthering the interests of Bryan, and as a result, there was only one well-known Bryan man in the crowd. Mr. Bryan himself ignored the invitation and did not even send regrets. And in turn, Bryan's name was mentioned only once during the evening, and elicated no applause then.

The president took occasion to roast the "regulators," as he called those who believe in giving the advocates of governmental regulation of railroads an opportunity of showing what the new laws along those lines will bring about.

Colonel John G. Maher, of Lincoln, a prominent Democrat, who attended, when the meeting was over said:

"I am sure not one-third of the Democrats in this state are in favor of putting any government, state or municipal ownership plank in the Democratic platform, and I don't believe one-third of the people are for any such ideas. If anyone will show me where the government ever bought even a mule without a graft somewhere, then I will begin to believe there might be some sense in giving the government opportunities to operate larger matters. But until it can show that even a few little things in which politics figure can be run without a graft, I am opposed to the public ownership of anything at all.

"When Bryan made his famous government ownership of railroads speech in New York, the entire west blazed up on the side of his theories. But that speech set the people of the west to thinking and investigating, and today the sentiment has changed until comparatively only a few westerners believe in government ownership."

Whether the Nebraska Populists can keep the organization they have just formed from dying, or whether they can so fill it with enthusiasm as to make it the nucleus of an organization which will have clubs in every county of the United States is a question. The leading Democratic newspapers of Nebraska are not supporting the move, and not even all the Populists papers are on the side of the new organization. It is freely predicted that because of the loss of interest of the west in government ownership, the new organization will die an early death.

DR. AKED COMING.

Liverpool, Dec. 31.—At a meeting of Pembroke Chapel last night a written communication from Rev. Charles F. Aked, the pastor, was read, to the effect that after long and anxious consideration he has decided to accept the call to the Fifth Avenue Baptist church, New York, and he, therefore, placed his resignation in their hands.

53 VICTIMS OF WRECK

Crash Was Due to Dense Fog Obscuring Signals.

BULLETIN.

Washington, Dec. 31.—At 2 o'clock this afternoon the number of dead as a result of the Terra Cotta wreck, according to the police, had reached 53. Forty-five of the number have been identified.

Washington, Dec. 31.—The total number of killed in the rear end collision on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad at Terre Cotta, D. C., a block station three miles from Washington, last night, is estimated this noon at about forty-eight and the number of injured at fifty. The wreck was caused by an engine drawing eight empty cars running into local No. 66, known as the Frederick express, just as the passenger train had pulled out from the station bound for this city. Engineer Hildebrand, who was in charge of the "dead" train, and who was arrested shortly after the disaster, declares that on account of the dense fog he was unable to distinguish the signal lights at Takoma Park block station. Tower Operator Philips declares that the danger signal was in its proper place and that Engineer Hildebrand's train had passed the tower station going at a speed of from fifty to sixty miles an hour.

Coroner Nevitt, who went to the scene of the wreck last night to view the remains of the dead and secure statements from injured passengers, empaneled a jury and opened an inquest at 11:30 o'clock this morning. After the jurymen were selected and the list of witnesses secured the inquest adjourned over until Wednesday and, according to the coroner, may last for several days. The members of the crew of the train causing the wreck were placed under arrest by the police. They are Harry Hildebrand, engineer; Frank Hoffmier, conductor; J. C. McCullum, fireman; Robert Rutter, brakeman, and W. A. Norris, baggagemaster. All were taken to the Tenth street police station. The officials of the Baltimore & Ohio railway, who were unable to fix the responsibility for the disaster last night, will begin an investigation at Baltimore today to determine the cause of the catastrophe. Engineer Hildebrand and the fireman of the dead train, Tower Operator Phillips, and all others in any way connected with the operation of the train, will be examined. The scene after the accident was sickening. Bodies had been hurled on every side, and it was after midnight before all the dead had been collected and placed on the special train to be brought to this city. It was only a few minutes after the collision until nearly all the residents of Terra Cotta, a sparsely settled village, had gathered at the scene of the disaster and begun the work of removing the dead and rescuing the injured from beneath the mass of debris. The workers labored under great difficulties, for many of the injured were wedged beneath the wreckage and numbers of them died before they could be rescued. The many acts of heroism and self-sacrifice that were performed will never be known. A detachment of 40 policemen was sent from Washington and nearly 50 physicians from this city and suburbs responded to a general call, but fully three-quarters of an hour had elapsed before the doctors were on hand to relieve the injured. For more than three hours after the fatal crash occurred the police and citizens were still taking bodies from under the great pile of wreckage, which was strewn for fully a quarter of a mile along the track. The rescuers took out several bodies which had been ground to a pulp. As the injured were taken from under the debris and while the physicians were giving them all the relief possible, Catholic priests were administering the last rites to many of the dying. Women and children joined in the work, and everything possible was done to relieve the sufferings of the injured.

Lying in a critical condition on a cot at Providence hospital, Frederick Leigh, a brakeman on the ill-fated passenger train, gasped out his story of the wreck.

"When we passed Kensington the danger signals were hoisted and we were told to move along cautiously," he said. "When we hit Takoma the signals were still out, and we left the station slowly and proceeded to Terra Cotta, our next stop. The next signals were out at Terra Cotta, and we took aboard a few passengers and started to pull out for Washington, when the train following us hit the back coach and smashed it to splinters."

At an early hour this morning Leigh died.

J. C. Macklin, a Washington jeweler who was treated at a hospital declared that when the train was leaving Takoma he was haunted by a presentiment that something was going to happen. This fear was only increased when the signals were shown urging the train to be cautious.

When the crash came, Macklin said, the screams and groans and muffled voices were heard everywhere.

FAILED TO GET LICENSES

Women Couldn't Pass Paris Examinations for Cabbies.

Paris, Dec. 31.—The first three women who applied for licenses to drive cabs failed to pass the preliminary examinations, which were conducted by a committee composed of two police officials, three cab owners and three cabmen.

The last named were particularly severe upon the applicants, who, however, were not daunted. One of them, who is a marchioness of authentic pedigree, will go up for re-examination in three weeks. Meanwhile she will attend a school for cabmen.

DR. LIPPINCOTT DEAD.

Los Angeles, Dec. 31.—Rev. Dr. Joshua Allen Lippincott, widely known in the east and middle west both as a divine and as an educator, died here last night. Death followed a brief illness.

NAUGHTY "SCHOOLMA'AMS."

Not Always Fair to Themselves.

"I taught school for a number of years," writes a Vancouver lady, "and like many other brain workers forgot how necessary the right kind of food is, and therefore suffered greatly from indigestion.

"My system became run down, my blood impoverished, and I had to take a year's holiday in the hope of regaining my strength.

"I saw Grape-Nuts food highly spoken of, tried the food and became very fond of it. After eating it with cream, only for breakfast, I gained quickly in strength and energy, and went back to work.

"When I married I soon convinced my husband that it was his heavy breakfasts of meat, potatoes, hot biscuit and white bread, that caused his feelings of languor in the mornings.

"Since eating Grape-Nuts and fruit he has become hearty and well.

"It is now many years since we began to use Grape-Nuts and the food seems as 'necessary in our household as salt.' A favorite dessert is alternate layers of sliced apples, sugar, nutmeg and Grape-Nuts, cooked in the oven until the apples are done." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville" in pkgs. "There's a reason."

Get This Gold Pair Free!

Spectacle-wearers! Listen! I want to prove to you positively that the Dr. Haux famous Perfect Vision Spectacles are ever so much better than any you have ever used before. That is the reason why I am making the following very extraordinary offer.

Send me your name and address and I will mail you my Perfect Home Eye Tester, free.

Then when you return me the Eye Tester with your test I will send you a complete five dollar family set of the Dr. Haux famous Perfect Vision Spectacles for only $1, and this will include a handsome pair of Rolled Gold Spectacles absolutely free of charge.

I also hereby positively agree to return you your dollar willingly if you yourself don't find them to be the most perfect-fitting, clearest and best you have ever bought anywhere, at any price. Send for my free Eye Tester today. Address,

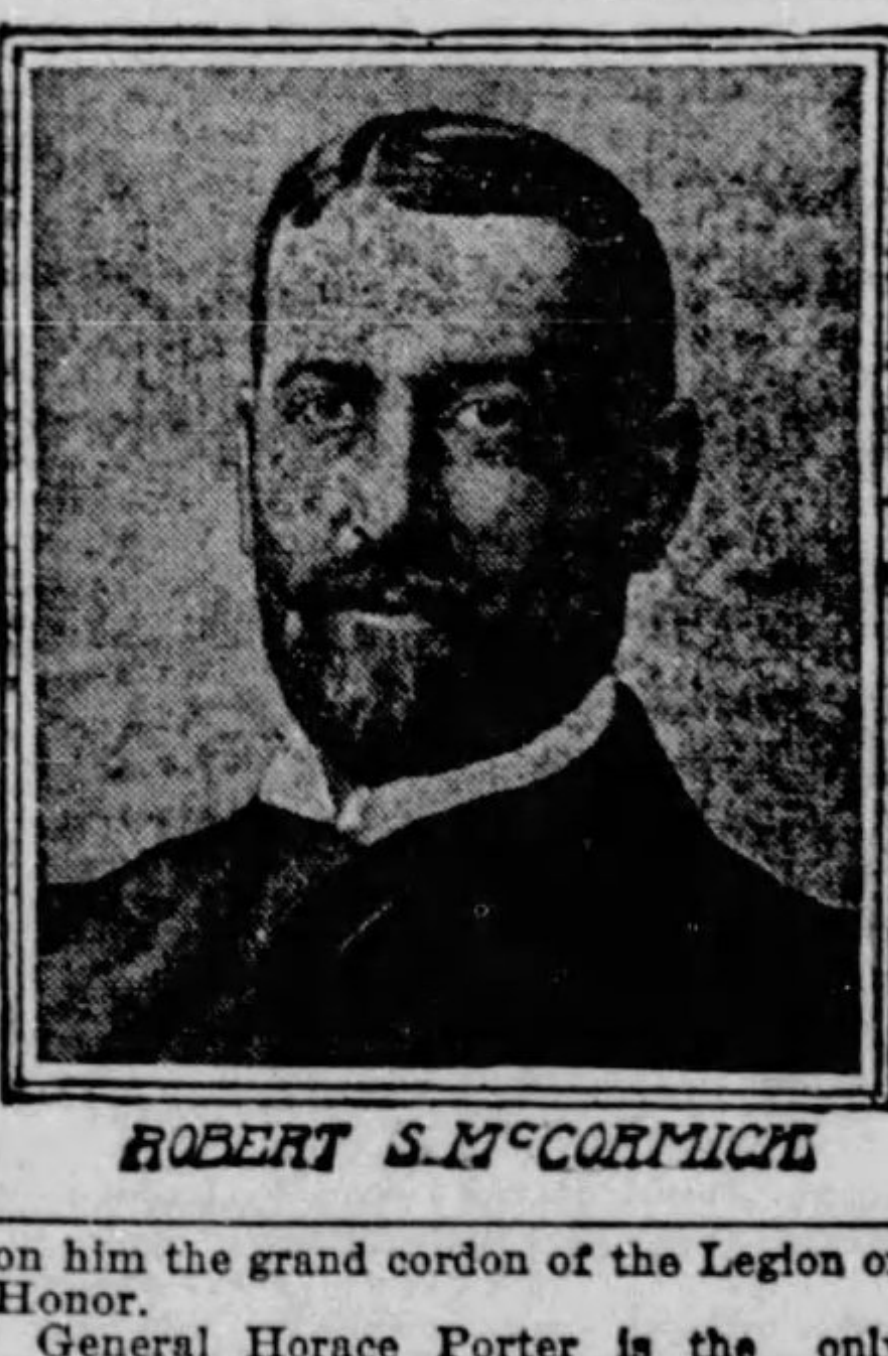
DR. HAUX SPECTACLE CO., St. Louis, Mo. I WANT AGENTS ALSO.

(NOTE—The above is the largest Mail Order Spectacle House in the world, and absolutely reliable.)

HONOR FOR M'CORMICK

France Will Decorate Him for Services to Nation.

Paris, Dec. 31.—The French government intends, as a mark of appreciation of Ambassador McCormick's services in furthering the cordial relations between France and the United States, to confer on him the grand cordon of the Legion of Honor.



ROBERT S. McCORMICK

General Horace Porter is the only American ambassador who has received this high distinction.

Among those who will be decorated at the New Year will be Victorien Sardou, who will receive the grand cross of the Legion or Honor, after a theatrical career of 30 years.

ATTACKED IN A HOTEL

Rich Young Cleveland Man Dying In Pittsburg.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 31.—W. S. Morton, 27 years old, of 1015 Lamont avenue, Cleveland, O., a real estate broker, is dying at the Homeopathic hospital here from injuries inflicted about 4 o'clock yesterday morning while he lay in bed in his room at the Annex hotel, Penn avenue and Sixth street. A sum of money, a gold watch and a number of valuable papers are missing, as are also Morton's trousers and vest.

Captain of Detectives James W. Eagan said that, while Morton was robbed, he was inclined to believe robbery did not actuate the crime, but that some important business deal was at the bottom of the attack. Among the valuables stolen are two bank books showing a deposit of $7,000 in the Cleveland National bank and $2,000 in the Cleveland Trust company.

Captain Eagan with the entire department are working on the case. Morton is unconscious the greater part of the time, but in lucid moments gasps a few words to the officers stationed at his bedside. From what has already been learned Morton made the acquaintance several days ago of a young man in the hotel. Saturday night he spent the evening in Allegheny, across the river from here, with this man. He says early yesterday morning he was awakened by someone entering the room, but before he could rise from the bed he was struck in the face with a pair of knuckles. Then he says his assailant struck him with a blackjack and he lost consciousness. The bed was covered with blood and the police found the two weapons in Morton's suit case. The assailant apparently washed his hands in the bath tub as this was also bloodstained.

Young Morton came here from New York December 9 and registered as "W. Lockwood, New York." To the clerk he gave his real name and said he was here on an important real estate deal and desired to keep his identity a secret.

J. C. Webster, of New York, was arrested last night by the police in connection with the case. He has been seen around the hotel lately and was ordered out of the hotel several times recently. Webster answers the general description of the man who Morton says entered his room.

W. S. Morton ranks among the wealthy young business men of Cleveland. He is 27 years old and has a number of property holdings in the business and other sections of Cleveland. His father, whose wealth was estimated at $1,000,000, died recently, leaving a great part of his estate to young Morton. Morton's sister and aunt have arrived in Pittsburg from Cleveland.

NEW LIFE TO THE BOYCOTT

Chinese Take Action at Canton on "American Problem."

Hong Kong, Dec. 31.—Dispatches received from Canton report that over 1,000 persons were present at a meeting held to discuss the Aemrican Chinese exclusion act. The following resolutions were adopted at the meeting:

First to revive a boycott against American goods. Second, that newspapers shall not advertise American manufacturers. Third, to dissuade laborers from proceeding to Panama. Fourth, to petition the viceroy asking the imperial government to negotiate with America for a modification of the exclusion act; and, lastly, that these resolutions be placarded throughout the country.

CARNEGIE CASH TO BATES

College Gets $50,000 From the Former Steel King.

Lewiston, Me., Dec. 31.—A gift of $50,000 from Andrew Carnegie is announced by President George C. Chose, of Bates college. Mr. Carnegie's offer of this amount stipulated that friends of the institution should subscribe $100,000. This amount was secured and Mr. Carnegie forwarded a check for $50,000 as soon as notified of the completion of the required sum. While many improvements and additions are contemplated at Bates, no definite plan for the use of the money has been announced.

MUTINY AT TAMBOV.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 31.—Twenty-three court martials are announced at Tambov. The mutiny is the most serious since that at Sevastopol last July. A colonel, three lieutenant colonels, twelve other officers and a mass of non-commissioned officers and privates of the Seventh cavalry and also the Tambov military prefect, Colonel Borissoff, of the Glebsk battalion, have been arraigned for dereliction of duty.

A MIDDLE-AGED WIDOW, very wealthy, nice looking, tired of "single blessedness" wishes to correspond. Lock Box 405, St. Joseph, Michigan.

Ladies Dr. Oliver's Never-Fail Pills. Guaranteed relief within 5 hours. Send stamp. Box 1618, Milwaukee, Wis. Box Free

COMET, the coming game. Catchy as fire. Enthusiasm everywhere. Comet parties the rage. Gold-edged, ivory-finished. 50c postpaid. Sample card free. Comet Card Co., Angola, Ind.

BEAUTIFUL YOUNG LADY worth $10,000 cash, will also inherit Ten Thousand more, wishes to meet young or middle-aged man with view to matrimony. (Poverty no objection.) Address Miss Hart, Dept 51, 54 Wabash, Chicago.

YOUNG MAN would like to meet Lady with view to matrimony, is worth over $25,000 in real estate, will inherit $10,000. No objection poor maiden or widow. Address Mr. H., Room 66, Ceylon Bldg., Chicago.

KIDNEY DISEASES CURED BY MY NEW SYSTEM. Examination, Opinion and Book Free. DR. J. F. SHAFER, Kidney Specialist 25 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

WANTED MEN TO TRAVEL, deliver samples and advertise our goods Locally; salary $91 per month, expenses advanced. BEEZLEY CO., Dept. 8, Monon Block, Chicago.

Be Good TO YOURSELF! "IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND;" if you need help try my new invention—not a drug—the BACHELOR'S FRIEND, based on 50 years study. Free trial offered by Dr. Foote, Box 788, New York

VETERINARY COURSE AT HOME. $1200 year and upwards can be made taking our Veterinary Course at home during spare time; taught in simplest English; Diploma granted, positions obtained for successful students; cost within reach of all; satisfaction guaranteed; particulars free. Ontario Veterinary Correspondence School, London, Can.

BANDITS SHOT CONDUCTOR

Two Robbers Raid Pullman Car In Virginia.

Richmond, Va., Dec. 31.—Near La Cross, Va., on the Seaboard Air Line at 2:20 this morning the passengers in the sleeper of train 81 out of Richmond were held up and robbed of about $800 besides jewelry. The robbers, two in number, got on at Richmond as passengers, and one remained in a day coach while the other went through the sleeper. The Pullman conductor, while attempting to arrest the man robbing his passengers, was shot through the arm by the robber. The man then pulled the emergency brake cord, stopped the train, and, with his confederate, escaped to the woods.

HIS ASHES TO THE SEA

Pennsylvania Man Wished to Rest Near Drowned Friend.

Pittsburg, Dec. 31.—The will of Samuel Creelman, the venerable justice of the peace of Wilkinsburg, who died a few weeks ago, directs that his body be cremated and that the ashes be taken to the middle of the Atlantic ocean and thrown overboard so they may rest near the body of William Cruikshank, his dearest friend.

When the ship State of Florida was lost years ago Mr. Cruikshank was one of the victims. Creelman never recovered from the blow of his death, and always insisted that he should like to lie beside him.

ROBBERS AT A CONVENT

Ordered Nuns to Give Up Money But Are Beaten Off.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 31.—A band of armed robbers attacked the convent of Mamonoffka, in the government of Nizhni-Novgorod, ordering the nuns to deliver up the money in their possession. The tocsin was rung and the villagers came to the rescue. Shots were exchanged and nine of the robbers were killed and five wounded. The others made their escape, pursued by the villagers.

SENDS MESSAGE TO POPE

Catholic Federation Deplores Action of France.

Cleveland, Dec. 31.—Resolutions deploring the action of France toward the Roman Catholic church in that country were adopted last night at a mass meeting of the Federation of Catholic Societies. The meeting represented 150,000 members. Bishop Ignatius F. Horstmann, of the diocese of Cleveland, presided.

The resolutions contained expressions of sympathy for and support to Pope Pius X. A cablegram telling of the action taken by the federation was sent to the vatican at Rome. Copies of the resolutions were mailed to the pope, President Roosevelt, U. S. Senators Foraker and Dick and Representatives Howland and Burton.

KEATS HOUSE PURCHASED

House in Which Poet Died Bought for Memorial.

Rome, Dec. 31.—The Anglo-American executive committee for the Keats-Shelley memorial represented by Nelson Ray, of Boston, secretary and treasurer, and R. R. R. Hitt, secretary of the American embassy, yesterday purchased the house in the Piazzo Spagna, where Keats died, paying $12,000 for it. Besides this amount and the $1,200 already paid for an option on the property, $8,000 more must be raised to free the house from mortgage. King Edward, President Roosevelt and King Victor Emmanuel have given their hearty support to the project, and it is hoped within six months that the books, manuscrips, portraits and all mementoes of Keats and Shelley will be in place in the house. The committee has also undertaken the perpetual care of the graves of the poets. The removal of the body of Keats was once prevented through the intercession of Queen Victoria.

JAP HEROES DECORATED

Mikado Grants Golden Kite to Leaders in Late War.

Tokio, Dec. 31.—The emperor personally invested a number of high military and naval commanders with decorations for distinguished services in the Russo-Japanese war yesterday. Field Marshal Oyama, president of the general staff of the Japanese army, Generals Kuroki and Nogi and several other generals, together with Admiral Togo, received the first class decoration of the Golden Kite. The granting of peerages and other rewards to persons in the civil service are expected shortly.

SORE EYES Strained, inflamed or diseased eyes, granulated lids, ulcers, cataract, bloodshot eyes, weak, tired or watery eyes, and eyes that ache, use Schlegel's magic eye lotion, a soothing remedy that cures quickly. Write today for free sample bottle and full information. Enclose 2c stamp. Address H. T. Schlegel Co., 1418 Mackinaw Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

HOUSEHOLD AND YOUNG FOLKS

EMILY S. BOUTON, EDITOR

Keynotes of Harmony

WEDNESDAY.

I would say to all: Use your gentlest voice at home. Watch it day by day as a pearl of great price; for it will be worth more to you in days to come than the best pearl hid in the sea.

THURSDAY.

The true idea of self-restraint is to let a child venture. The mistakes of children are often better than their no-mistakes.

FRIDAY.

A kind voice is joy, like a lark's song, to a hearth at home. Train it to sweet tones now and it will keep in tune through life.

SATURDAY.

Whenever the will is habitually concentrated, there the forces which shape experience shall gather, making a better future out of a steadily evolving present.

SUNDAY.

Christ transmitted His power as a sacred heritage to all mankind. The conditions necessary to the exercise of this power are expressed in the one word, Faith.

MONDAY.

The body is continually changing its elements in accordance with the condition of the mind.

TUESDAY.

We can surely learn to do more than we have yet accomplished—more, even, than we have yet conjectured as within the range of possibility.

Little Stories of Interest to Women

EMILY S. BOUTON

Up in a Chicago suburb there is a church in which, according to Unity, the women have taken the position that the money making activities for charity's sake constitute a "stomach and mercenary religion," and the committee appointed to consider the matter recommended their being entirely abolished. The reasons given were the following:

"It will give women more time for charity."

"It will place their minds upon higher things than waiting on the table."

"It will increase individual gifts."

"It will take the church out of competition with trades people."

"It will keep husbands and wives in better humor."

"It will give a better atmosphere to the church."

This decision is commended by the editor of Unity, who writes of what he calls the Frenzied Bazar. Evidently that sort of thing in Chicago is done just as everything else is there, with a whoop and a rush that bring almost incurable evils in their train. It is a question, however, whether this is not true elsewhere, as well as in Chicago. A few devoted, self-sacrificing women usually do the lion's share of the work, often up to the point of nervous exhaustion, and then, when the bills are paid there is only a "humiliating percentage of the gross receipts" left for the church or the charitable object.

And yet, though all this and more is true, the question remains of how the needed money is to be raised to carry on church and charity. The outcome in that enterprising church in the Chicago suburb will be watched with interest.

"What are you doing that for?" asked one friend of another who had hastened after a flying newspaper in the street where they were walking.

"It's fluttering might frighten a horse to desperation," she answered, as she crumpled it into small compass and threw it afar, so that it could "flutter" no more.

That reminds me of the story of the poor woman in a public park, who was stooping down and picking up something which she put into her apron. A passing policeman sternly demanded to know what she was hiding, telling her severely that he had been "watching her game for some time."

"Ah!" she replied tremblingly, "I'm only gathering up these bits of broken glass from the grass to save cutting the little bairns' feet." And this was what she was doing.

These are the little things which count because of the love for humanity which they betoken. Trifles they may seem, and yet they are not possible to one who thinks but of self.

Who puts back into place a fallen bar,
Or flings a rock out of a traveled road,
His feet are moving toward the central star,
His name is whispered in the gods' abode.

It is a curious thing to discover that what is called the woman movement is much farther advanced in Europe than in this country. Especially is this true in Scandinavian countries, but in Germany, England, Switzerland and Hungary the women are exceedingly active in the effort to bring the sexes upon an equality of opportunity in all matters in which they have an equal interest. Even in poor, distracted Russia there is a strong National Woman's Suffrage association. Mrs. Rachel Foster Avery says the women in Europe have the courage of their convictions, and the subject is not tabooed in their clubs, as is often done here. The Swiss women are especially admirable for their courage and independence.

An interesting fact in regard to the women of Sweden is related by Ida Husted Harper, who has recently visited that country.

She says that the spirit of democracy is strong among them, and that they are not afraid of losing their social position by joining the ranks of the salaried, instancing the case of the daughter of the prime minister, who is employed in a bank in Stockholm. Another young woman who was assisting in the salesrooms of the Society of Swedish Handiwork was chosen to fill the post of lady in waiting to the queen. Here is where royalty set a good example.

The sorrows of childhood! What an absurdity! So remarks some one who is filled to the brim with the idea that children generally know only joy, and that if things do not go as they like, their grief quickly passes. Yet this is not always true. Oftener than we think there are griefs and disappointments which go deep into the child nature and are remembered into adult life. Likes and dislikes that seem absolutely unreasonable are sometimes taken anl prove lasting. This is true both of employments and people.

I recall today how in my childhood I hated to knit. A well beloved aunt whose lonely days I was often called upon to enliven, believed that little girls should be taught something useful, instead of being allowed to play all of the time. The particular line of industry she desired me to take was knitting. Her especial object was to keep me from reading, in which pleasure she thought I was inclined to indulge too much at my tender age. She did not tell me why she gave me such long and weary tasks of going round and round the stocking I was to wear, but I knew, and how I hated the very sight of yarn and needles. My soul rejoiced with exceeding joy when I learned to knit and read together, but I kept the secret of my new accomplishment locked away from everybody, religiously guarding it from my aunt. And how my conscience pricked me, especially at night when I was put to bed and left in darkness! Awfully real then were my fears of the ultimate consequences of deceiving one who was seeking only my good.

Possibly I might have derived some consolation had I known then that Benjamin Franklin used to spend his time in knitting stockings when he was jogging along in a stage coach between Philadelphia and New York.

Yes, children have mental pains as real and sometimes as lasting as those of their elders, sorrows, the strength of which is wholly unsuspected.

The Saunterer in The Boston Budget tells of meeting an old gentleman who was a most delightful optimist. When asked as to what he did when misfortune came to him, he answered:

"Why, I sit down and think of all the pleasant things that I have enjoyed in the course of my existence, and I speedily see the blues scudding away in the distance. There is nothing like a little mental sunshine to dissipate the vapors that make existence miserable. Cultivate the habit of looking on the bright side of affairs and you will find that you can make a heaven about you, even under the most distressful conditions. The mind creates its own kingdom for good or ill."

That is the right kind of philosophy, of the sort which makes life worth the living. It creates a heaven about us in very truth, no matter by what we are surrounded, just as surely as a hell is made by dwelling persistently in the shadows. Try it, you who stay constantly with the blues—usually of your own painting—and see how soon you can change the coloring.

While we are questioning what people are to do in order to keep their homes well-ordered and pleasant, because of the difficulties surrounding the solution of the domestic service question, wondering, too, why we have so much more trouble than our mothers and grandmothers had, it might do us good to hark back to the time of Defoe, the novelist. He wrote many pamphlets upon religious and social matters, and among other things a book of three hundred pages upon labor and household service. It was published in London in 1724, and presents the same kind of pictures as are drawn today in discussing the problem. Here is the title: The Great Law of Subordination Considered; or, the Insolence and Unsufferable Behavior of Servants in England duly inquired into.

The subject is discussed in "ten familiar letters," with a conclusion which is an earnest and moving remonstrance to the housekeepers and heads of families in Great Britain to continue their efforts to obtain laws that will regulate the manners and behavior of their servants.

I have never read the book, but I am wondering if the advice it contains and the cures suggested are any more to the point than many of the discussions that appear from many pens in papers and magazines. The latter remind one of the argumentative man who said: "But, my dear fellow, I tell you it's impossible for the moon to be inhabited. When it is full it is all right, but when it wanes down to a little crescent, where the deuce would all the people go to?"

How is that for close logic and clearness of conclusion?

Here are some lines by Ella Wheeler Wilcox that are worth thinking of:

For I am one who lives to say
My skies have held more gold than gray,
And that the glory of the real
By far outshines my youth's ideal.

How many of us have learned to look life squarely in the face and read this spirit into its lessons?

The Cozy Corner

THE HAPPIEST HOUSEKEEPER.

Having read much about housekeeping and the housekeepers' trials, I have come to the conclusion that the happiest one must have been the first one. We do not imagine that Mother Eve conducted her housekeeping on the same lines as does the woman of the twentieth century, but she had very little of the cares we have to cause her to worry.

From all accounts, she was not called upon to sew buttons on the shirts when they came from the laundry, nor wonder if there was a nail in Adam's shoes that there should be such great holes in his socks each week. No trying to make over last year's suit or hat, that it might "do" for a while longer. She needed no knowledge of arithmetic to figure out how the month's salary could be made to cover the absolutely necessary expenses and leave a little margin for Christmas presents. She was never troubled with persistent demands of the butcher and baker, or book-peddlers. Her front door steps were not littered up with circulars advertising all kinds of patent medicines, nor was she called to the 'phone to be told that "It's a mistake—I wanted someone else."

It is true she could not belong to a woman's club nor have an afternoon of gossip with the neighboring women, but she was not expected to make "things" for church bazaars nor entertain company when she had a "splitting headache." If dinner wasn't ready when Adam came home at noon, he could always find something to "pick up" and was used to helping himself.

It is true that when her husband lost his job in the garden of Eden, she felt just as the women do nowadays when the shops shut down and they know that means very skimping times for the family until the shops open up again, but, on the whole, Eve had about as easy a time as most housekeepers can expect, and even that did not keep her out of mischief.

So let us who have to work pretty hard console ourselves that if we had as much leisure as she did, we might find more trouble than doing our own work. Elinor G.

The editor thinks there must be a wave of "Thoughts on Eve" passing over the country as no less than three papers on the lady have been received this week, and all express nearly the same sentiments.

HAPPY, THOUGH POOR.

With all respect to the writer of the article on the simple life, in a recent number of The Blade, by Emma Louise Gordon, I must take exceptions to the list of what she seems to consider as indispensable to a happy life.

According to the experience of a widow who has lived alone on a mountain top for many years, it is quite possible with the aid of a judicious and inexpensive selection of reading matter, not only to be happy, but to keep in touch with the world from which she is shut out, and with the world's work, so that when she has the rare opportunities that come to her of visiting with cultivated persons, she can talk with them intelligently on the issues of the day, and of social matters in their world. This widow came to her lonesome home thirty years ago and has made it a home she would hardly like to leave, even if it does lack many of the luxuries which Mrs. Gordon longs for.

One assertion made in the article referred to will bear questioning: How does Mrs. Gordon know that the "poor people do not care for these luxuries that are denied them? How can we judge of their desires because they patiently and quietly make the best of what seems to be inevitable, and make no complaints of what they can see no way of bettering?

The world owes no man—or woman—more of a living than they can earn and if there is no way to increase one's income so that more of the "flesh pots" of life may be enjoyed, then let us strive to be content with the lentils we can afford and endeavor to find them satisfactory.

"Till one of us die"—I ask in the spirit and affection of a sister that our friend does not let a spirit of dissatisfaction, and repining for more and better things, allow you two who are all in all to each other to overlook the great treasure you possess in your daily companionship. When there is but one to go about the lonely house, you will think that you have then lost all that is worth caring for, and I beg of you do not store up regrets that you allowed the lack of material comforts to interfere with the pleasure of the days when you had each other.—"Seven X."

Mrs. Rena F.—After having sold, or given, manuscript to a newspaper the writer loses the right to send the same to another paper, and no reputable paper will use an article that has been once published by another paper, except with the consent of the editor who had it first, or by giving his paper credit. This cannot be done when the paper containing the article is not sent, as in your case.

Mrs. "M. F." asks if is necessary to give the full name of a correspondent every time she writes. Others have asked the same question and all are informed that it is. When a correspondent writes every week, say, or very often, possibly the editor will remember her name, but when one writes only once in a year or two, it is very wearing on the editor's memory to recall to whom the "pen name" belongs. It is not much trouble to sign your name to a letter, and will be a convenience to the editor, besides being a rule of the office. Certainly none who write such good and helpful articles as do The Blade correspondents need be ashamed to own them.

For the baby, when he is teething, make a shield of oiled silk and pin it over the dress under the white bib. Then the dress will not become damp and the little bib can be easily changed when wet. A quilted bib, when it is wet through, will often dampen the dress so it will give the baby a chilled feeling.

When sewing at a machine, use a chair from four to eight inches higher than you would for ordinary use, and see how much easier it will be for you to sew.

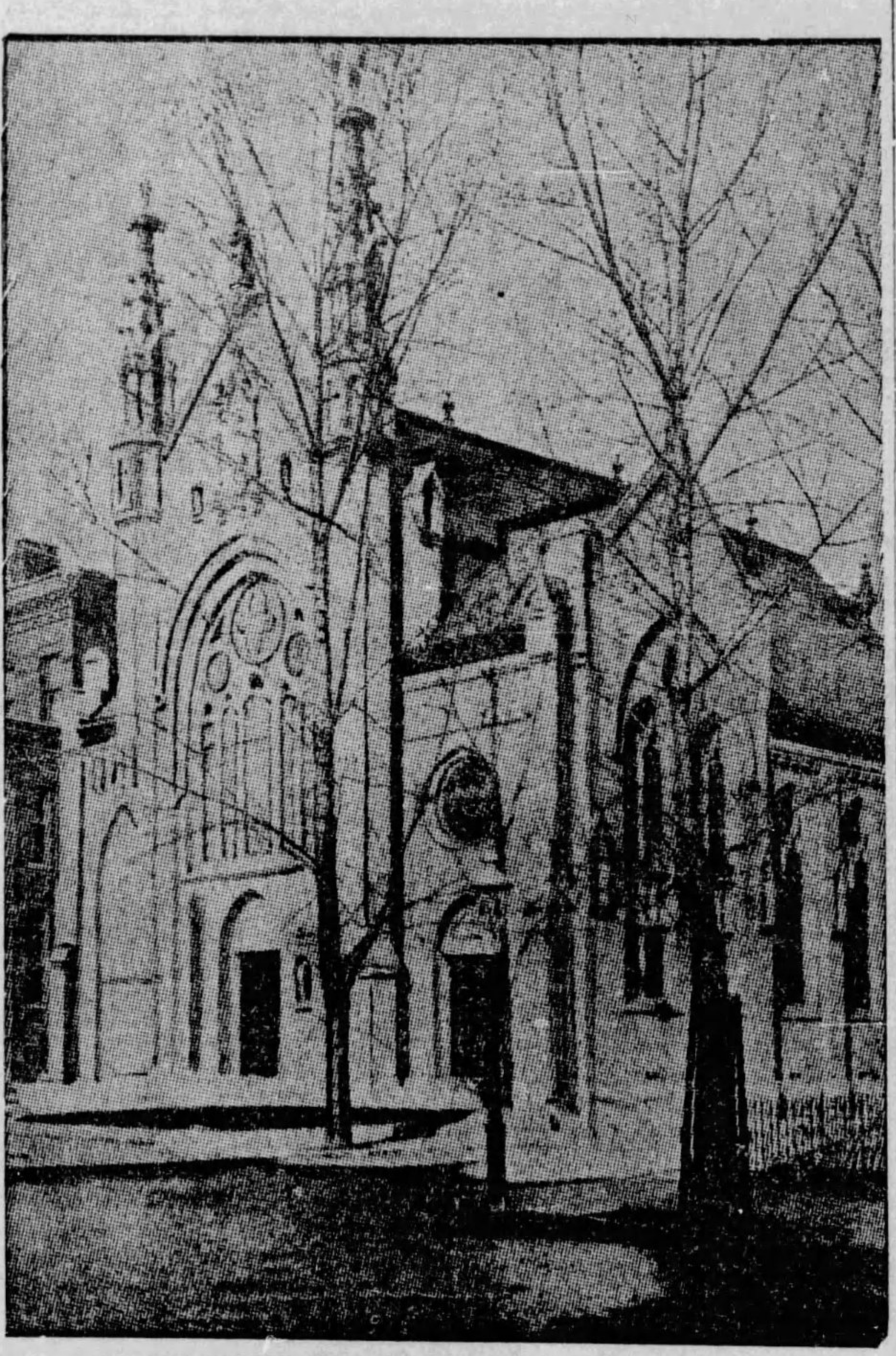
Where the President Goes to Church

Out in northwest Washington, on one of the quieter streets where reside the middle million rather than the fashionable folk, stands a pretty little church. Yes, it is more than pretty. It is really artistic in its exterior, and the stranger who chances within cannot but admire the tastefulness and beauty of its interior. To be exact about the location, this bit of a church stands on Fifteenth street near O, and anyone who knows Washington is well aware that this is not a locality where dwell the "smart set," says Allan Day in The Pilgrim for January.

Grace Reformed, as it is called, might seat two hundred and fifty persons comfortably. It is really a chapel when its size and cost are contrasted with some of the edifices in the capital of the country, for here are houses of worship on which have been expended hundreds of thousands of dollars and whose records bear the names of a thousand members. Grace Reformed might have cost as much as fifty thousand dollars to build and furnish—a large sum for its congregation, since most of them are wage-earners in one way or another and none has the income of a millionaire.

But the little band of brethren to whom Pastor Schick ministers are not only not envious of other congregations, but they are envied, for one of their members would be gladly welcomed to any church in Washington or in the United States for that matter. Among those who, Sunday after Sunday, join in prayer and praise and listen to the word of God as it falls from the preacher's lips, is the President of the United States, content for the time to be merely one of the faithful, glad to mingle with them during the Sabbath hour, and sometimes to join in the midweek prayer-meeting.

Remembering that Mr. Roosevelt is of sturdy Dutch ancestry it is not strange that his denomination should be that of so many of his forefathers — the Dutch Reformed church. When governor of the Empire state he had several congregations of this denomination from which to choose at Albany, and the following is fairly numerous in the metropolis, but when he came to Washington, first as naval secretary, then as vice president, there was but one congregation of this faith—a little group of persons who worshiped in a small frame chapel not large enough to hold a hundred souls, but ample to accommodate their scanty number. If they lacked in members, however, they were strong in spirit, while their leader was a man who knew no such word as failure and who had literally been schooled in adversity. He set to work to enlarge the congregation, and while looking about for more sheep to enter the fold, learned that Mr. Roosevelt was of the faith. There was no one in the church acquainted with the future head of the nation and he was a stranger to the minister, but Pastor Schick determined to write him a letter and invite him to worship with them. The next day brought a reply—characteristic of the writer — short and to the point, thanking him for his thoughtfulness and announcing that Vice President Roosevelt would attend service the following Sunday, with this proviso—that no distinction should be made in his favor and that he should be given a seat just as one of the people and with them.



THE BEAUTIFUL FRONT OF GRACE REFORMED CHURCH.
—From The Pilgrim.

"When I received that letter," said Pastor Schick to me, "I felt that Mr. Roosevelt was not only a good man, but that he would be a valuable member of the church—one on whom I could count for encouragement."

Sunday came and with it the vice president. His wishes were carefully respected and he was seated like any stranger, although it may be needless to say that he was placed far enough in front to see and hear clearly. At the close of the service, the pastor came down from the pulpit, welcomed Mr. Roosevelt, and introduced him to the deacons of the church. Thus began a relation which did not change after the man of destiny had become the chief American, for today he is just as regular in his attendance and earnest in his attention as during the first year he joined the pastor's following.

M. G. R.

As usual, we will have a spelling lesson the first of the yea for the benefit of some of our coresspondents who are growing a little careless in this respect. Miss Prudence will never tell from whose letters the mis-spelled words are taken, but the writers are most kindly urged to profit by the lessons, as well as others who are liable to make similar mistakes. Until further notice Webster's method of spelling will prevail in The Blade Household, instead of any "reformed" method, as we quite agree with one who writes us today that "it will be hard to make a distinction if words are spelled alike but different meaning." With a slight change in expression and grammatical construction, the editor thinks so, too. Here are the words: Promice, studie, larg, becaus, fewew (few.) These on a page letter; please correct them.

I am too late for the Thanksgiving dinner, but if Zack Stubbs will send his collection car around I will help fill it with all sorts of good things for Christmas.

"Florida Old Man" says he will give bananas, oranges, etc., and I will provide red cheeked apples, peaches, nuts, pop corn and cider (if it is allowed.) I am so glad Topsy is to send persimmons, for those are never seen in Michigan.

"Buckeye Schoolma'am," you have my sympathy in regard to the spelling classes; I am not yet a teacher, but hope some day to be one and I wonder how I shall do with such cases. Your "Will" is excellent and I think we would be better were we all to make ours like it.—"Pine Grover."

Pine Grover asks if one need send their truly name each time they write, atfer one is a recognized member of the M. G. R. It is safer to do so, for with such a large family as Miss Prudence has, it is difficult for her to remember the names of all.

"Little Jane" says she does not know of anything to write that would be of "general" interest, and so she sends this, which she thinks may be of "particular" interest to some who—like herself—have difficulty in remembering some things:

Of all the twelve Apostles
Our Savior gives the names—
John, Philip, Andrew, Peter,
Bartholomew and James;
Lebbeus, Thomas, Matthew,
Judas Iscariot,
James, Simon, and when Judas fell,
Matthias, chose by lot.

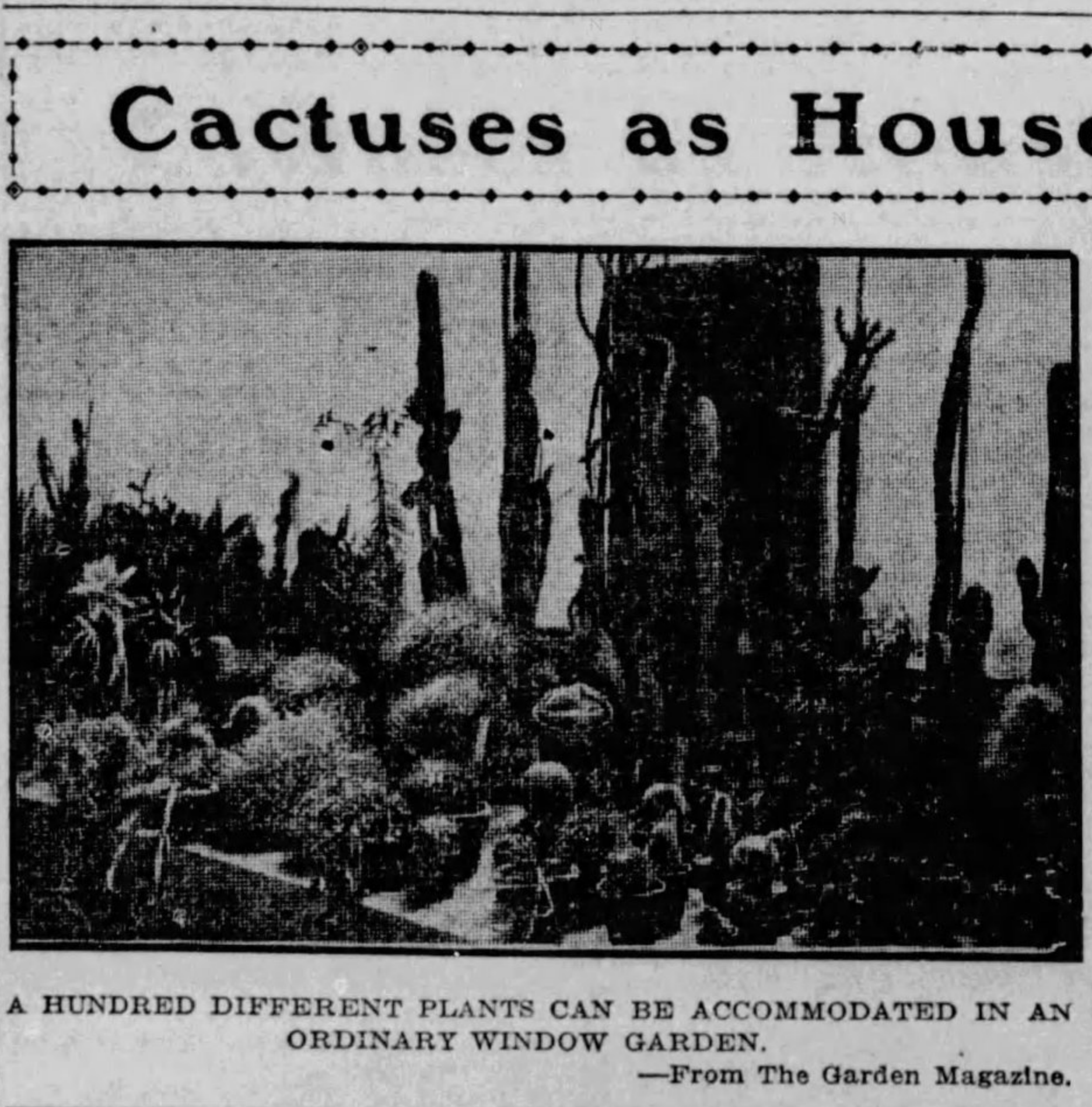
May I come in and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year? And with my Christmas greetings I will send a description of Paul Lindsey island, in the Wabash river, near my home.

The island takes its name from Paul Lindsey, who, with his band of desperadoes, made it their rendezvous 'way back in the sixties. At that time the island was government property and was situated much nearer the middle of the Wabash river, and much farther north than it now is. For many years it has been washing away at the north end and on the Illinois side, and filling in on the south end and the Indiana shore, till it is now 30 or 40 feet further south than it used to be. For years Paul Lindsey and his band made life a terror to the people of the surrounding territory. Then some of the good people living in the vicinity formed themselves into a Vigilant society and one night a committee of several men visited the island, surprised the outlaws and took Lindsey a prisoner.

What was done with him no one except the few survivors of that committee knows for certain to this day. It was rumored, among other things, that he was carried down the river in a boat and shot, and his body sunk in the waters of the Wabash. But this much we do know: he was never seen or heard of afterwards, and his notorious band was broken up.

Now there is a fine farm on the north end of the island and a happy family dwell there, while the southern portion of the island is covered with beautiful trees. When the river is very low, one can walk across to the island from the Indiana side, but when the river is on a "big high" the island is almost submerged. A small island has formed between the Indiana shore and the large island, and if the chanel continues to fill as fast in the next few years as in the past, it will be but a short time before the island will become a part of the state.—Indiana Wabash.

Cactuses as House Plants



A HUNDRED DIFFERENT PLANTS CAN BE ACCOMMODATED IN AN ORDINARY WINDOW GARDEN.
—From The Garden Magazine.

For the man or woman who has only a few odd minutes to spare at irregular intervals for plant cultivation the cacti and some of the succulents will give the greatest amount of satisfaction. Unlike most other window plants they do not greatly resent irregularities in watering. They have no tender foliage to get damaged, or to fall if conditions become unduly bad, and they require less attention in the matter of repotting into larger sized receptacles than any other class of plants. Their slow rate of growth is a positive advantage for the window gardener, as a remarkably large assortment can be kept in the same quarters for a number of years without becoming unduly crowded.

With very few exceptions indeed cactuses are not grown for their flowers, but when these do appear they are every bit as gorgeous as many of the better known flowering plants, and often indeed, with their intensely glowing ruby and purple shades, they rival even the most showy of the orchids. The flowers are also very large in comparison with the plants, and it is no unusual thing to see a little plant three or four inches high in a pot a trifle smaller, carrying two or three flowers, each one of which is of almost the same size as the parent stock.

The little plants are never in the way, and can be shifted about easily as necessity demands; and though, of course, hard usage is most undesirable, they will survive the hundred and one accidents and strains upon their vitality that would be fatal to any other living thing. Though the cat may jump and knock them down with such persistent regularity that the plants are tumbled out of their pots every few weeks, they will still remain alive. I do not advocate such maltreatment and neglect; cactuses, like everything else, will give amazing returns for attention that is just a little bit better than the ordinary, and there is a great personal satisfaction in being the possessor of something a little better than your friends.

The only way to get flawless specimens is to grow the plants yourself from seed, and the process is simplicity itself. You can begin at any time of year, with the absolute confidence of producing plants of appreciable size in twelve months, (of such genera as Cereus and Opuntia). Plants that have been collected in the wild will never present the same even texture of surface and bright green color, nor will they attain equal rapidity of growth or live so long as plants raised in cultivation, because their roots are damaged in the removal.

For the purpose of the window gardener cactuses may be grouped into these general classes: Tall, Dwarf, Vine-like.—The Garden Magazine.

Banner Puzzlers

For. Nov.

New Work ....Buckeye, Jr.
Solutions .... Pauline

1.—WHO WAS HE?

He was born in Lycia during the reign of the Caesars. He was given to his parents in answer to their prayers. He made a pilgrimage to Palestine, and in his voyaging miraculously stilled a storm by his prayer. He became bishop of Myra. He attended the council of Nice, and died a natural death not long after his return. He is buried at Bari. Before the twelfth century his name had become very prominent both in the eastern and western church.
SALOME GARY.

2.—ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

Chris bought some eggs for his mamma's Christmas cake; one-third of them were bad and he broke one-sixth of them; he then had one-quarter of a dozen left, and they were worth 9 cents. How many did he buy, and how much were eggs per dozen?
SALOME GARY.

3.—CHRISTMAS CROSS.

O
X O X
X X O X X
X X X O X X X
O O O O O O O
X X X O X X X
X X X O X X X
X O X
X O X
X O X
X O X
X O X
X O X
X X O X X

1.—A numeral.
2.—An exclamation of surprise.
3.—A round dance.
4.—Pertaining to a chariot.
5.—To deliver.
6.—Made of earth.
7.—The lords of the fields.
8.—Favor.
9.—The trembling poplar.
10.—The goddess of vengeance.
11.—100 square meters.
12.—A great brazen laver in the temple at Jerusalem.
13.—To spread.

Centrals down and across name something very much thought of at the Yuletide.
A. R. ALC.

4.—CHARADE.

Guess what I found in my stocking,
On a merry Christmas day!
A metal, a drink, and a little bed,
A tiny cat, and what the clock said.
Some ties, and the ruler of a nation.
A Xmas carol, and all my relation!
MOLLIE MOORE.

5.—ANAGRAMS.

1.—
That I may make it quite complete,
My motto now "IS MARCH STREET!"

2.—"Good woman in pawn hall decorated tree." MOLLIE MOORE.

6.—QUOTATION.

Who wrote:
"I lay the weary pen aside,
And wish you health, and love, and mirth;
As fits the solemn Christmas tide,
As fits the holy Christmas birth.
Be this, good friends, our carol still—
Be peace on earth, be peace on earth,
To men of gentle will."
ILLI NOIS.

This column closes the Christmas series of puzzles, being made up of the best from each of four lists sent in, after the prize winner was selected. The Columnites will rejoice to see that Mollie Moore and Illi Nois have come back to the fold, even if they have wandered these many moons, and will join with the Mistress in giving them a cordial welcome and a hearty invitation to come oftener in the future.

Answer to Christmas Puzzles by Hawkeye.

1.—The birth of Christ.

2.—Words forming double diagonals: Candidate, challenge, chronicle, habituate, homestead, Atlantean, Christmas, Hamadryad, hesitates, Mnemosyne, blameless. Diagonals: Christmas holidays.

3.—"Peace on earth, good will to men."

4.—Words forming tree: C, aha, error, traitor, transcend, piscatorial, preliminary, superabound, turnstile, T, R, den, clean. Centrals: Christmas tree.

5.—The time when the festival of Christmas was first observed is not certainly known, but it is spoken of in the beginning of the third century by Clement of Alexandria, and in the latter part of the fourth century Chrysostom speaks of it as being of great antiquity. As to the day on which it was celebrated, there was for a long time considerable diversity of opinion, but by the time of Chrysostom the western church had fixed on December 25, though no certain knowledge of the day of Christ's birth existed. The eastern church, which had previously generally favored January 6, gradually adopted the same date. Many believe that the existence of heathen festivals celebrated on or about this day had a great influence on its being selected, and the Brumalia, a Roman festival held at the winter solstice, when the sun is, as it were, born anew, has often been instanced as having a strong bearing on the question.

6.—Quotation.

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote: "Truth is ever born in a manger."

Chat.

The Schoolmistress finds, on examining the postmarks on the letters enclosing Christmas puzzles, that they were all mailed in season to have reached her on the 10th, as required.

The delay came from their being "side-tracked" at the main office, and not being forwarded to her desk until after that date.

She mentions this now as a reminder to the pupils of the 'Cademy that it is best to always be several days beforehand in sending letters for publication, as "accidents will happen in the best regulated" newspaper offices.

During the New Year just commenced she hopes to hear from all her old pupils, and as many new ones as are interested in the puzzles.

Remember, if you do not send in answers occasionally, the fact that you always work the puzzles does not help to encourage her one bit, for she does not know it unless she sees proof of it in your letters.

The annual prizes for most new work, and most solutions sent in during the year, will be repeated this year, and also the prize for "perfect attendance."

These prizes have been awarded for 1906, as follows: Most new work furnished during the year, Buckeye Jr.; greatest number of correct solutions sent during the year, W. P. E.; most regular attendance during year, Pauline.

This is the time to commence, children. Try and not miss one lesson this year; or, if you cannot give perfect recitations, send in as many as you can work each week, to keep your chance for the "regular attendance" prize.

Geo. Wilson, Pauline, Lilian Anderson, W. L. Mower, and Gay formed the class today.

Geo. Wilson, thank you for the new work, and also for the good wishes.

Pauline, thank you, too, for your very kind thought of me.

W. L. Mower, a problem would be very much "in order."

Lilian, you must certainly learn to "condense" if you wish to write for this 'Cademy.

LITTLE BOY BLUE

The little toy dog is covered with dust,
But sturdy and stanch he stands;
And the little toy soldier is red with rust,
And the musket moulds in his hand.

Time was when the little toy dog was new,
And the soldier was passing fair;
And that was the time when our Little Boy Blue

Kissed them and put them there.
"Now, don't you go till I come" he said,
"And don't you make any noise!"
So, toddling off to his trundle-bed,
He dreamt of the pretty toys.

And, as he was dreaming, an angel song
Awakened our Little Boy Blue—
Oh! the years are many, the years are long,
But the little toy friends are true!

Aye! faithful to Little Boy Blue they stand,
Each in the same old place—
Awaiting the touch of a little hand,
The smile of a litttle face;

And they wonder, as waiting the long years through,
In the dust of that little chair,
What has become of our Little Boy Blue,
Since he kissed them and put them there.
—Eugene Field.

Alice and Her Kitten

One thing was certain, that the white kitten had had nothing to do with it; it was the black kitten's fault entirely. For the white kitten had been having its face washed by the old cat for the last quarter of an hour (and bearing it pretty well, considering); so you see that it couldn't have had any hand in the mischief.

The way Dinah washed her children's faces was this: first, she held the poor thing down by its ear with one paw, and then with the other paw she rubbed its face all over, the wrong way, beginning at the nose; and just now, as I said, she was hard at work on the white kitten, which was lying quite still, and trying to purr—no doubt feeling that it was all meant for its good.

But the black kitten had been finished with earlier in the afternoon, and so, while Alice was sitting curled up in a corner of the great armchair, half talking to herself and half asleep, the kitten had been having a grand game of romps with the ball of worsted Alice had been trying to wind up, and had been rolling it up and down till it had all come undone again, and there it was, spread over the hearthrug, all knots and tangles, with the kiitten running after its own tail in the middle.

"Oh, you wicked, wicked little thing!" cried Alice, catching up the kitten and giving it a little kiss to make it understand that it was in disgrace. "Really, Dinah ought to have taught you better manners! You ought, Dinah, you know you ought!" she added, looking reproachfully at the old cat, and speaking in as cross a voice as she could manage—and then she scrambled back into the armchair taking the kitten and the worsted with her, and began winding up the ball again. But she didn't get on very fast, as she was talking all the time, sometimes to the kitten and sometimes to herself.

Kitty sat very demurely on her knee, pretending to watch the progress of the winding, and now and then putting out one hand and gently touching the ball, as if it would be glad to help if it might.

"Do you know what tomorrow is, Kitty?" Alice began. "You'd have guessed it if you had been up in the window with me—only Dinah was making you tidy, so you couldn't. I was watching the boys getting in sticks for the bonfire—and it wants plenty of sticks, Kitty. Only it got so cold, and snowed so, they had to leave off. Never mind, Kitty, we'll go and see the bonfire tomorrow." Here Alice wound two or three turns of the worsted around the kitten's neck just to see how it would look; this led to a scramble, in which the ball rolled down upon the floor, and yards and yards of it got unwound again.

"Do you know, I was so angry, Kitty," Alice went on as soon as they were comfortably settled again, "when I saw all the mischief you had been doing. I was very nearly opening the window and putting you out into the snow! And you'd have deserved it, you little michievous darling! What have you got to say for yourself?

"Now don't interrupt me," she went on holding up one finger, "I'm going to tell you all your faults. Number one: You squealed twice while Dinah was washing your face this morning. Now you can't deny it, Kitty: I heard you! What's that you say?" (pretending that the kitten was speaking). "Her paw went into your eye? Well, that's your fault for keeping your eyes open—if you'd shut them tight up, it wouldn't have happened. Now don't make any more excuses, but listen! Number two: you pulled Snowdrop away by the tail just as I had put down the saucer of milk before her. What, you were thirsty, were you? How do you know she wasn't thirsty, too? Now for number three: you unwound every bit of the worsted while I wasn't looking.

"That's three faults, Kitty, and you've not been punished for any of them yet. You know I'm saving up all your punishments for Wednesday week. Suppose they had saved up all my punishments!" she went on, talking more to herself than the kitten. "What would they do at the end of a year? I should be sent to prison, I suppose, when the day came. Or—let me see—suppose each punishment was to be going without a dinner: then when the miserable day came, I should have to go without fifty dinners at once! Well, I shouldn't mind that much! I'd far rather go without them than eat them.

"Do your hear the snow against the window panes, Kitty? How nice and soft it sounds! Just as if someone was kissing the window all over outside. I wonder if the snow loves the trees and fields that it kisses them so gently? And then it covers them up snug, you know, with a white quilt, and perhaps it says: 'Go to sleep, darlings, till the summer comes again.' And when they wake up in the summer, Kitty, they dress themselves all in green, and dance about—whenever the wind blows—oh, that's very pretty," cried Alice, dropping the ball of worsted to clap her hands. "And I do so wish it was true! I'm sure the woods look sleepy in the autumn, when the leaves are getting brown.

"Kitty, can you play chess? Now don't smile, my dear; I'm asking it seriously. Because, when we were playing just now, you watched just as if you understood it, and when I said 'Check!' you purred! Well, it was a nice check, Kitty, and really, I might have won if it hadn't been for that nasty Knight that came wriggling down among my pieces. Kitty, dear, let's pretend—" And here I wish I could tell you half the things Alice used to say, beginning with her favorite phrase: "Let's pretend." She had quite a long argument with her sister only the day before, all because Alice had begun with: "Let's pretend we're kings and queens;" and her sister, who liked being very exact, had argued that they couldn't, because there were only two of them, and Alice had been reduced at last to say: "Well, you can be one of them then and I'll be all the rest." And once she had really frightened her old nurse by shouting suddenly in her ear: "Nurse! Do let's pretend I'm a hungry hyena and you're a bone."

But this is taking us away from Alice's speech to the kitten. "Let's pretend that you're the Red Queen, Kitty! Do you know, I think if you sat up and folded your arms, you'd look exactly like her. Now, do try, there's a dear!" And Alice got the Red Queen off the table, and set it up before the kitten as a model for it to imitate; however, the thing didn't succeed, principally, Alice said, because the kitten wouldn't fold its arms properly. So, to punish it, she held it up to the looking-glass that it might see how sulky it was—"and if you're not good directly," she added, "I'll put you through into Looking-glass House. How would you like that?

"Now if you'll attend, Kitty, and not talk so much, I'll tell you all my ideas about Looking-glass House. First, there's the room you can see through the glass—that's just the same as our drawing-room, only the things go the other way. I can see all of it when I get upon a chair—all but the bit just behind the fireplace. Oh! I do so wish I could see that bit! I want so much to know whether they've a fire in winter; you never can tell, you know, unless our fire smokes, and then smoke comes up in that room, too—but that may be only pretense, just to make it look as though they had a fire. Well, then, the books are something like our books, only the words go the wrong way; I know that, because I've held up one of our books to the glass, and then they hold up one in the other room.

"How would you like to live in Looking-glass House, Kitty? I wonder if they'd give you milk in there? Perhaps, Looking-glass milk isn't good to drink. But, oh, Kitty! now we come to the passage. You can just see a little peep of the passage in Looking-glass House, if you leave the door of our drawing room wide open, and it's very like our passage as far as you can see, only you know it may be quite different on beyond. Oh, Kitty! how nice it would be if we could only get through into Looking-glass House! I'm sure it's got, oh! such beautiful things in it! Let's pretend there's a way of getting through into it, somehow, Kitty. Let's pretend the glass has got all soft like gauze, so that we can get through. Why, it's turning into a sort of mist now, I declare! It'll be easy enough to get through——" She was up on the chimney piece while she said this, though she hardly knew how she had got there. And certainly the glass was beginning to melt away like a bright silvery mist.
—From "As in a Looking Glass"—Lewis Carroll.

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SCORES CHILD SLAVERY

Speaks on His Bill Before Nebraska Teachers.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 29.—Senator Albert J. Beveridge addressed the closing meeting of the Nebraska State Teachers' association last night. Senator Beveridge was introduced by Wm. J. Bryan. The senator spoke particularly of child labor.

"Nothing," he said, "shows how greed forgets humanity as much as the child slavery in certain sections of this country. There is something wrong with a prosperity which is so immense that it finally comes to feed upon the lives of little children. Men who make money by working infants are making too much money.

"There are, at a low estimate, half a million children under 14 years of age at work in cotton mills, glass factories, sweatshops, mines, and other like industries. Those whom such toil does not kill are literally ruined for citizenship. We are turning out, at a low estimate, two hundred thousand adult London Hooligans every year; and these become in turn the parents of hundreds of thousands of other degenerates. And so this civic pestilence riots and spreads.

"It has got to be stopped; if not for the sake of these children themselves, then for our own sake; if not for the sake of common humanity, then for the sake of the republic's safety. For this republic is based on citizenship. We cannot sow the wind today without reaping the whirlwind tomorrow.

"If everybody, including the most earnest advocate of state's rights, could agree on a national quarantine law to keep out yellow fever, which does not kill twenty people in twenty years, how much more should we agree on a national child labor law to stop a practice that actually kills thousands of children every year and irreclaimably ruins tens of thousands every year.

"However, the theory of state's rights is not affected by the child labor bill pending in the senate. It cures the evil without touching state's rights. The bill affects child labor only in factories, mines and sweatshops. That is as far as it should go at present. It does not touch any healthful employment of children anywhere in the republic. It only cuts out the cancer of murderous and debasing child slavery, and that is all."

SWORD OF PAUL JONES

Navy Library Receives Weapon of Famous Officer.

Washington, Dec. 27.—In practically the same condition as when it was used by its distinguished owner, the sword of John Paul Jones now rests in the library of the navy department where it has been placed by Commander Reginald Nicholson. It is believed that the weapon originally was given to Jones by the North Carolina family of the name at the time he changed his own name in compliment to them. The sword was given by Jones to Theodosia Burr, daughter of Aaron Burr. Theodosia Burr, after marrying Joseph Alston, a wealthy and talented young planter of South Carolina who in after years became governor of the state, presented the sword to Judge Matthew Davis, of Charleston, who gave it to Rev. Dr. Ducachet, of Philadelphia. The latter gave it to Commodore Summerville Nicholson, and the commodore gave it to its present owner, Commander Nicholson. It is 30 inches long, beautiful in design, very strong, highly tempered and still very mild. The hilt is of white brass with the portion known technically as the basket broken away. The tang is wide and strong and the grip piece of the handle is of wood covered with twisted copper.

TROOPS CONTROL TOWNS

More Have Left the Islands Than Have Come.

Washington, Dec. 27.—A report on Jap- nese conditions in the Hawaiian islands as made to President Roosevelt by rank P. Sargent, commissioner of im- igration and naturalization, as a result f his recent visit to the islands.

Commissioner Sargent expressed the inion that there are fewer Japanese in e Hawaiian islands now than there ere two years ago, a greater number aving come to America in that period han arrived in Hawaii. Miki Saito, the apanese consul general at Honolulu, in- mated to Mr. Sargent that the Japanese overnment discouraged its people from oming to the United States because of s knowledge of the conditions existing this country, especially on the Pacific oast, and it was apprehensive lest the oming here of great numbers of Jap- nese might induce agitation against em that would be embarrassing.

The commissioner of immigration found at the owners of sugar, pineapple and her plantations in the islands are in rious need of labor and many Japanese e coming to the islands to work on em. He says that it is the effort of the awaiian planters to diversify their bor, so far as may be possible, not con- ning it to any one race, but getting peo- e from all quarters of the world. A cond shipload of Portuguese will arrive Honolulu in a short time, and it is obable that those immigrants will make e islands their permanent home. Many ore plantations would be operated on e islands if it were possible to obtain e necessary laborers, but up to the esent time labor has been scarce. It is pected that the arrival in the islands European laborers will be a solution the Hawaiian labor problem.

MANY ACRES WITHDRAWN

orest Reserves Are to Be Very Largely Increased.

Washington, Dec. 29.—The acting mmissioner of the general land office s announced the withdrawal of 537,- 0 acres of land for forest reserve pur- ses, included within the Sacramento nge of mountains in South Central ew Mexico. The lands are located in ero and Chaves counties, south and st of the Mescalero-Apache Indian servation. The acting commissioner so announced the withdrawal of 318,- 0 acres in Routt county, in northwest olorado, west of the continental di- de, for similar purposes. He also ithdrew for forest reserve purposes 3,000 acres lying in southwestern olorado, north and east of the south- n Ute reservation, near the town of urango, and 155,580 acres in north- stern California, lying in Del Norte unty and adjoining the Klamath for- t reservation on the west and the egon border on the north.

SAD BLOW TO BLENDERS

Secretary Wilson Uncovers Liquor Secrets.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Secretary Wilson said today that his visit to some of the Baltimore distilleries yesterday in company with Dr. H. W. Wiley, chief of the bureau of chemistry, and George F. McCabe, the law officer of the agricultural department, had been productive of good results. They examined the operations of the two distilleries, one blending establishment and a gin still, with a view to ascertaining precisely how the liquors are made. They got information they had not been able to obtain by conferences with distillers. At the gin mill which they visited, only six barrels of the liquor is manufactured each day. It is pronounced pure by Dr. Wiley, but not a gallon of it is sold on the market. It is sold exclusively to blenders, who mix the pure gin with neutral spirits and some flavoring material and that product is put on the market as gin. As another result of their investigation it has been discovered that three-fourths of the straight whisky made in this country is sold to blenders who use it in connection with spirits and flavoring and coloring matter to make their products. As a consequence of the investigation which Secretary Wilson has been conducting it is probable he will not recede from his decision, based on the pure food and drug act in which he held that the so-called "blended whisky" artificially colored and flavored were "spurious imitations" of whisky, and that "the mixture of such an imitation with a genuine article cannot be regarded as a mixture of like substances within the letter and intent of the law."

SUPPORT CONGO ACTION

United States Stands With England in the Matter.

Washington, Dec. 29.—It was said at the state department yesterday that the United States government through its ambassador in London had pledged to Great Britain its support in any steps taken by the British government toward ameliorating the condition of affairs in the Congo.

This is the first time that any official announcement has been made and sets at rest all questions as to the stand the United States would take in case it became necessary for one or more powers signatory to the Berlin treaty to intervene. It is well known that the agitation in England for some action by that government under its treaty obligations looking to reforms in the Congo has been as great, if not greater, than in the United States, but England apparently has been loath to act while there was any prospect that Belgium would annex the Congo territory. The matter again was before the state department yesterday when Dr. Howard Guinnes, of England, head of "the regions beyond missionary union," called upon Secretary Root and urged independent action by the United States, maintaining that this country was morally bound to act because it was the first to recognize the flag of the Congo free state. It is not believed, however, that anything in that direction will be done, certainly not until action is taken by the senate on the Lodge resolution pledging the support of the senate to any steps taken by this government toward ameliorating the conditions in that country.

Mr. Guinness, however, left the department with the assurance that the United States government would not permit itself to be influenced by the fact that King Leopold recently has granted extensive rubber concessions in the Congo territory to certain Americans.

SOME BANDITS ARE SHOT

Report Says Uprising Is Not at All Likely.

Washington, Dec. 29.—The war department issued a statement today concerning the situation in Cuba, which indicates that the unsettled conditions in Santa Clara province are not alarming and that the labor trouble in Camaguey is not serious. In explanation of the Santa Clara trouble the statement says:

"On Christmas evening a dispatch was received from Governor Magoon saying he had received word from some plantation owners expressing fears of depredations by the small bands of robbers understood to be infesting the province of Santa Clara, and he accordingly ordered practice marches of two troops of cavalry in that province. He also mentioned the existence of a strike in Camaguey, which might possibly lead to some disorder."

The statement continues:

"A letter under date of December 23 has been received from Governor Magoon which contains the following passage:

"'The present situation is full of hope and confidence that the provisional government will have no occasion to deal with a public uprising. The continued tranquility of the island under our administration is as satisfactory as anything can be in Cuba.'

"He also says with reference to the strike at Camaguey:

"'There is a fair prospect of a strike by the workmen in the railway shops at Camaguey and I sent fifty artillerymen there last night and this morning am advised that the matter is unimportant.'"

CASH IS SENT TO CHILE

Red Cross Contributes $3,400 More to Sufferers.

Washington, Dec. 29.—The American Red Cross today sent $3,400 to Chile on account of the recent earthquake. This remittance is in addition to a total of $8,943 previously dispatched to that country. Small contributions are still infrequently received here on account of the earthquake sufferers, but the energies of the Red Cross agencies are now directed toward the collections of relief for famine sufferers in China. The contributions received at the national office of the Red Cross in this city for this fund amount to $6,600, but no reports have been received from state agencies, which make the largest collections.

TO OPPOSE DIVORCE LAW

Washington Churches Organize to Beat Proposed Measure.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Vigorous objection will be interposed by the churches of Washington to the adoption by congress of the uniform divorce law agreed upon at the recent convention of the national congress of divorce laws held in Philadelphia. The ministers of Washington, it is announced, propose to organize a movement to oppose the adoption of the law.

PEABODY FOR PORTO RICO

He Will Act as the Island's Railroad Expert.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Upon the recommendation of the interstate commerce commission Governor Winthrop, of Porto Rico, has secured James Peabody, of Chicago, as a railway expert to advise and assist the government of that island in adjusting its railroad rates upon a fair and reasonable basis and to revise the freight classification now in use.

Mr. Peabody has had large experience in various positions in the railway service and has been for some years connected with the Santa Fe system in a responsible capacity.

DECLINE QUITE MARKED

Inadequate Transportation Affected International Trade.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The car shortage problem has had its influence upon the movement of international commerce during the past year, according to a statement furnished by the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor. While the statement declares it is impossible to determine to what extent the inadequate transportation facilities affected the movement of grain, live stock, meat products, and, in some localities, lumber and coal, in November, it says, it can undoubtedly be affirmed that they would have been much heavier had the railroads been fully able to cope with the situation.

A marked decline is shown in movements of certain important staples when compared with November of last year, but an increase for the eleven months of the present year. The total live stock receipts at seven interior primary markets during November aggregated 3,534,117 head, a falling off of about 300,000 head from the same month last year. For the eleven months of the present year like arrivals aggregated 37,442,129 head, compared with 37,089,707 head for a like period in 1905.

A considerable falling off is shown in shipments of packing house products from Chicago during November, there being a total of 218,110,712 pounds, against 296,060,362 for the same period in 1905.

The most noticeable decline is shown in receipts of grain, the total figures for fifteen interior markets during November having been 75,779,424 bushels, showing a falling off of over 17,500,000 bushels in November, 1905. For the eleven months of the present year grain receipts aggregated 722,944,871 bushels, exceeding like months in 1905 by more than 11,500,000. Decreases occurred in the receipts of wheat; barley and rye were offset, however, by an increase in the receipts of corn and oats.

Domestic cotton sight receipts during November amounted to 2,392,390 bales, against 2,193,896 in November of last year. November shipments of anthracite coal from eastern producing regions totaled 5,182,153 tons, compared with 5,421,584 in November, 1906.

WANTS 2 NEW DREDGES

Isthmian Canal Commission Revises Its Specifications.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Revised specifications have been prepared by the isthmian canal commission for two pipe line dredges to be used at LaBoca and Crystobal. Under the original specifications bids were asked for on these dredges delivered in this country. The new specifications ask for proposals on the dredges delivered ready for work in Panama, one on the Pacific side of the isthmus and the other on the Atlantic side. Proposals are also asked on the machinery knocked down in Panama. These dredges are required for harbor work, as well as for dredging at the ends of the canal. The commission now has two dipper dredges at work in Panama, and a third dredge of this description is now building for the commission. The cost of these dredges varied from $100,000 to $102,500, and it is expected that the cost of the proposed pipe line dredges will be about the same.

In addition to these smaller dredges the commission also has two seagoing dredges building near Baltimore, each of which is 300 feet long and is capable of going to sea under its own steam at a speed of eight or ten knots an hour. One of these will be used on the Pacific side of the zone and the other on the Atlantic side.

Several old bucket dredges left on the isthmus by the French are in use on the canal work, but they are of an obsolete type and much less effective than modern dredges.

FEARS PANIC IN JAPAN

Economist Says Reaction From Stimulus Is Near.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 27.—In a recent interview Baron Shibusawa, a prominent Japanese economist, predicts a financial panic in Japan as a result of the reaction of the war which has just begun to be felt. He said bankers were responsible for stimulating a mania for promotion of new undertakings which had now reached feverish heat, which had no outlet and which is bound to succumb when support is withdrawn. He suggested that in order to prevent the forthcoming panic or reduce it to a minimum currency be contracted as far as possible, and treasury bills to the amount of $25,000,000 be issued. While this is considered burdensome, it is the only course to avert disaster and crashes when reaction comes.

WANTS TO ADMIT WHITES

Indian Commissioner Asks Co-education of the Races.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Commissioner Loupp, of the Indian office, will ask congress to legalize the practice of the department in permitting white children to enter Indian schools on the same basis as Indian children are permitted to enter white schools. It is a policy of the Indian office to break up the Indian reservation wherever possible, allot the lands owned by the Indians and put the wards of the government on self-supporting footing.

To do this effectively old barriers are being broken down and the Indians in many sections of the country are attending the district schools, the Indian bureau paying into the county or state treasury the cost per capita of the Indian's education as assessed against the white child, which amounts to about $2 per quarter. In many localities of the west and northwest Indian schools are the only schools in widely separated areas. It has been Commissioner Loupp's policy to permit white children to enjoy the privileges of education granted Indian children on the theory that there was no law against such a policy and he is now preparing an amendment to the Indian appropriation bill now pending before the senate committee on Indian affairs, affirming the position he has taken.

CANAL ZONE IS HEALTHY

Death Rate Shows Steady Decline During November.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Chief Sanitary Officer Gorgas, in a report to the isthmian canal commission on the health conditions in the canal zone during the month of November, notes a steady decline in the death rate, both among the employes and the population outside of the employes. In July, among the employes, there were 151 deaths; in November, 66.

Among the 5,000 white American employes three deaths occurred, with no deaths from any cause in the families of the employes.

The number of employes constantly sick has fallen from 1,107 in July to 799 in November, a rate of 30 per 1,000 constantly sick. Taking the population as a whole, there were 422 deaths in July, against 241 in November.

FOR AN ORIENTAL TRADE

Samples of Goods Required In Bureau of Manufactures.

Washington, Dec. 26.—American manufacturers who are desirous of capturing some of the trade in the Orient, South America and other countries, now enjoyed by foreign manufacturers, says a report of the bureau of manufactures of the department of commerce and labor, should apply to that bureau for its varied lines of samples of goods which find a ready market in those countries. These samples have been gathered primarily for American manufacturers, and consist of cotton yarns, piece goods belts, braids, handkerchiefs, gloves, laces, towels, etc., which are manufactured in foreign countries and sold in China, Japan, India, Australia, Turkey, Egypt, South Africa and South America. Any or all of these samples, the report states, will be sent upon application by manufacturers, chambers of commerce and other commercial organizatons located in cotton manufacturing centers.

The bureau has samples of clogs of various sizes manufactured and worn in the north of England, also a number of heel irons, sole blocks, soles and nails of different sizes and varieties used in in the manufacture of clogs.

From Edinburgh, Scotland, are a large number of samples of wall paper.

From China there are toilet soaps made in Austria, France, Germany and Holland, and leather gloves made in Germany and sold in China.

Calabash pipe made in Cape Town, South Africa, and a calabash which, it is believed, may be profitably grown in the United States.

COAL BIDS ARE HIGHER

Government Must Pay More for Philippine Fuel.

Washington, Dec. 29.-Bids recently opened at the navy department for fifty thousand tons of semi-bituminous coal to be delivered at Manilla, disclosed the fact that it is much cheaper if transported in foreign bottoms than in American bottoms. The proposals called for separate bids on shipments in steamers of American register, sailing vessels of American register, steamers of foreign register and sailing vessels of foreign register. No bid was received to transport the coal in steamers of American register, the experience of the past having demonstrated the futility of offering any. The prices on shipments in steamers of foreign register, and on which there were a number of bids, ranged from $5.60 a ton to $4.70 a ton. Last year similar coal was bought for $4 a ton, the price for shipment in American steamers being $7 a ton. One concern offered to ship 5,000 tons in a sailing vessel of American register, but no bids for shipments in sailing vessels of foreign register were received.

Two firms offered to ship the coal regardless of whether it was in ships of American or foreign register, the prices ranging from $8.88 by one firm, and $7.50 and $7.25 by the other.

Inasmuch as the award probably will be made on the basis of the rate of $4.70 a ton, the government will have to pay this year $35,000 more than last year for the same quantity.

OUT FOR TARIFF REVISION

National Secretary Leaves the Ranks of Stand-Patters.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Elmer Dover, of Ohio, secretary of the Republican national committee, has startled the "stand-patters" by coming out in an interview declaring that tariff revision should be undertaken by the Sixtieth congress when it convenes in December of next year.

Mr. Dover has made no secret of his views favoring tariff revision, but heretofore he has never indicated that he differed from other prominent Republicans who favor revision and say that the Republican party should do the revising, but who cannot bring themselves to setting a definite time for revision. Now Mr. Dover makes it clear that he believes that just as it was decided years ago that the way to resume specie payment was to resume, the way to revise the tariff is to revise it, and to begin the work at the earliest practicable moment.

The old bugaboo that tariff tinkering on the eve of a national campaign will bring disaster to the party that does the tinkering holds no fears for Secretary Dover.

"As I see it," said Mr. Dover, "the danger to the Republican party through the tariff issue lies in not taking definite steps toward revision before the next national campaign. If revision is begun by the Sixtieth congress the tariff will not be an issue in the 1908 campaign. The question will have been eliminated.

"It would not be wise to attempt to revise the schedules at this present session, because the Fifty-ninth congress expires on March 4, and it could not, therefore, finish the work in that time. It should not be done at an extraordinary session after March 4 because there are no extraordinary conditions to make imperative the calling of such a session. It would be unwise to wait until after the next election and make revision an issue in the next campaign, for the reason that the party might carry the pitcher to the well once too often.

"If revision comes at the next session the question cannot be an issue in the 1908 campaign, and the party record for accomplishment will be all the stronger. I have no doubt of the success of the Republican candidate in the next presidential fight, but I think his position as a candidate will be all the stronger if the tariff has been revised."

WORK STARTED ON BREAK

Piles Are Driven in Effort to Control Colorado River.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The work of repairs on the break in the Colorado river just across the Mexican-California international boundary line which threatened to do such great damage in the Imperial and Colorado valleys, has been commenced in accordance with instructions given by Mr. E. H. Harriman. Information to this effect is contained in a dispatch received here by Director Walcott of the geological survey. Piles are being driven into the river at the place where the break occurred and over these the Southern Pacific Railroad company is running its tracks. Huge blocks are being dropped into the river to form the foundation for the brush and other material with which the gap in the river will be filled.

WANT BIGGER REVOLVERS

Army Complains 38-Caliber Weapon Is Too Small.

Washington, Dec. 27. — President Roosevelt had an extended conference with Secretary Taft and Colonel Russell, acting chief of ordnance of the army, yesterday, on the subject of complaints the President has been receiving from the Philippines that the 38-caliber revolver in use by the army there was not large enough, and recommendations that it should be increased to 45-caliber because of the bushwhacking and other tactics followed by the Filipinos. No announcement was made as to the result of the conference.

DURAND TAKES FAREWELL

Bids Adieu to Root and Taft and Other Friends.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Sir Mortimer Durand, the British ambassador, called on Secretaries Root and Taft yesterday, and bade them farewell. The ambassador leaves Washington this afternoon, and will spend the night with his family in New York. They will sail Saturday on the Umbria. Ambassador Durand, while at the state department, met the Japanese, Russian and Austro-Hungarian ambassadors and a number of other members of the diplomatic corps, each of whom extended to him a cordial greeting and best wishes for a safe journey home.

TAFT FOR PRESIDENCY

Secretary of War Is In Hands of His Friends.

TAFT'S OWN STATEMENT.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Secretary Taft made the following statement today concerning his presidential aspirations:

"For the purpose of relieving the burden imposed by recent publications upon some of my friends among the Washington newspaper correspondents of putting further inquiries to me, I wish to say that my ambition is not political; that I am not seeking the presidential nomination; that I do not expect to be the Republican candidate, if for no other reason, because of what seems to me to be objections to my availability which do not appear to lessen with the continued discharge of my own official duty; but that I am not foolish enough to say that in the improbable event that the opportunity to run for the great office of president were to come to me, I should decline it, for this would not be true."

Washington, Dec. 29.—William H. Taft, secretary of war, will be a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination in 1908 if it shall appear there is a demand for his candidacy. Mr. Taft's future, politically, is in the hands of his friends in Ohio and throughout the country.

If the crystallization of the party sentiment within the next few months points to Secretary Taft as the logical leader in the next great national struggle, then the secretary will be a candidate. His friends in Ohio, in Kentucky, in Minnesota, and in southern and western states, have been told to take such steps as they may deem necessary to determine how formidable a following it will be possible to rally under the Taft banner.

Mr. Taft is not an active or aggressive aspirant for the presidency. On the contrary, it has been with considerable reluctance that he has consented to place himself in the hands of his friends as a tentative candidate.

Mr. Taft is widely regarded as the man best qualified in every respect to carry on the administration policies that President Roosevelt has instituted. He is looked to as the man who stands distinctively for those things that have so popularized the Roosevelt regime, and it is almost generally accepted that if the country desires to "stand by Roosevelt" in 1908 it could be given no more fitting opportunity to express that desire than would be found in the opportunity to elect Secretary Taft as President Roosevelt's successor.

President Roosevelt would be greatly pleased to see his war secretary nominated as his successor.

But this does not mean that Mr. Taft is to be made the administration candidate, for President Roosevelt is keenly alive to the fact that the American people might resent any attempt on his part to control or dictate the selection. The President, it is said by his close friends, will not seek to dominate the next Republican national convention, but will adhere rigidly to a "hands off" policy.

With Secretary Taft as a tentative, prospective candidate, interest naturally in what Ohio will do, for the Buckeye commonwealth has another son who is figured in the presidential class—Senator Foraker.

Mr. Foraker is not an avowed candidate. His attitude, as a matter of fact, is similar to that of Secretary Taft. He is in the hands of his friends. The senator holds, so his friends say, that the presidency is not an office for place-seekers, and that a man's candidacy should be made by an appreciable popular demand instead of being advanced by himself personally. That tallies closely with Secretary Taft's views as expressed by those who are in his confidence.

It is patent in the circumstances that it is up to the rank and file of the Republicans of Ohio to decide whether Secretary Taft or Senator Foraker shall be their candidate in the next national convention. Both men have thousands of admirers and many devoted adherents in the state. Every Republican in the state would like to see an Ohioan as the next incumbent of the White House. The thing remaining to be determined, therefore, is which of the two men, Secretary Taft or Senator Foraker, is the more available candidate; which one would be more likely to secure the nomination if presented to the national convention by a united and enthusiastic Ohio delegation, and which one, if nominated, would make the stronger race for the election?

SHOT BY NEGRO SOLDIER

Chinese Laundryman at Elreno Seriously Wounded.

Elreno, Okla., Dec. 29.—Resisting an attempted holdup in his laundry, Lee Sung was shot and severely wounded last night by a negro who wore the uniform of the United States army. The assailant escaped. Soldiers from Ft. Reno, the sheriff's force, policemen and many citizens are searching for the negro.

The numerous outrages perpetrated by negroes believed to be discharged soldiers of the Twenty-fifth infantry have roused public sentiment to white heat.

Lee Sung was alone in his laundry when the negro entered, and, pointing a pistol at him, demanded money. The Chinese attempted to draw a revolver, and the negro fired, the bullet entering Lee Sung's abdomen.

The negro was dressed in the full uniform of the United States army, but it is not known whether he is a member of the negro troops now stationed at Ft. Reno or one of the discharged soldiers. Some of those dismissed for participation in the Brownsville riots carried their uniforms away with them at the time of their discharge.

After wounding the Chinese the negro ran from the laundry towards the outskirts of the town, but it is believed by the searchers that he is in hiding in this vicinity.

Major Penrose, commanding officer at Ft. Reno, when asked what action he had taken and whether the roll of the troop at the fort had been called, refused to discuss the case.

"I am getting sick of this business," he said. "Every time a crime is committed it is laid to the negro soldiers. I won't tell anything about what has been done, further than to say that we are doing all in our power to aid in the apprehension of the guilty person."

TOWN SITE REPORT IS IN

Frauds in Indian Territory Subject of Investigation.

Washington, Dec. 29.—The report of William Dudley Foulke, the special investigator sent to the Indian Territory by President Roosevelt to report on the town site fraud, has been received by Secretary Hitchcock and by him turned over to the law officers of the interior department for examination as to the legal questions involved. His report consists of ninety typewritten pages and it was stated today at the interior department that its publication will not be made for weeks, if at all. It covers, it is understood, but one feature of affairs in the Indian Territory, and until other reports bearing upon similar matters are received by the secretary nothing will be given out in relation to the subject.

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ASKS U. S. INTERFERENCE

New York Notables Sign Letter to the Secretary.

New York, Dec. 26.—A letter signed by J. Pierpont Morgan, Dr. Lyman Abbott and other prominent citizens of New York was addressed to Secretary of State Elihu Root yesterday directing his attention to conditions in the Congo Free State, where, it is asserted, "flagrant inhumanity exists," and urging him on behalf of the American people to use the "moral support" of the United States government to correct the abuses the Congo natives are alleged to be suffering from.

The communication is as follows:

"Over a year has passed since the report of the commissioners chosen by the chief executive and virtual owner of the Congo to investigate conditions in that state was published. In spite of their natural desire to give all possible credit to their sovereign, the commissioners felt constrained to report the existence of measures and practices of flagrant inhumanity. Among these measures and practices are the following:

"(1)—The exaction of a labor tax so oppressive that many natives on whom it falls have little if any freedom.

"(2)—Appropriation of land to such an extent that the natives are practically prisoners within their own territory.

"(3)—The employment under authority of the government as sentries of cruel, brutish blacks, chosen from hostile tribes, who murder, pillage and rape the people for whose protection the government is avowedly established.

"(4)—The abuse of the natives by white representatives of officially recognized companies.

"(5)—The binding of little children to years of labor at uncertain wages by contracts they do not understand, and even more serious maltreatment of children supposedly under the immediate care of the government.

"(6)—Great injustice in the administration of the courts, so that the natives dread the name of Boma, the place where the judicial system is centralized.

"(7)—The sending out of punitive expeditions, not for the purpose of establishing peace and order, but for the purpose of terrifying the natives into paying a tax, which, as administered, even the commissioners regard as inhuman.

"It is to be remembered that these are not charges brought against the Congo government, but findings of the commission appointed by the chief executive of the government to investigate and report on the facts. Acting upon these findings a second commission, also appointed by the king, has recommended measures of reform. No steps have been taken to adopt them. There is no evidence that the Congo government is undertaking seriously to remedy these evils. The powers which created the Congo government have clearly a right to call that government to account. Inasmuch as the United States gave its support to the establishment of the Congo government it is justified in giving its moral support to any undertaking to secure conditions in the Congo that will not disgrace civilization. We wish to assure you that for any measure you may adopt in order to give the powers such moral support of the United States you will have our earnest and urgent approval."

The letter is signed by the Rev. Messrs. Lyman Abbott, Henry Mottet, Wilford L. Robbins, George William Knox, Charles H. Parkhurst, John P. Peters, William R. Richards, Anson P. Atterbury, Percy S. Grant and Messrs. William Jay Schieffelin, William H. Douglas, Charles A. Schierer, Spencer Trask, George Haven Putnam, Everett P. Wheeler, Robert C. Ogden, J. Pierpont Morgan, D. Willis James, R. Fulton Cutting, J. Cleveland Cady and W. J. Havemeyer.

STENOGRAPHERS NEEDED

Philippine Islands Running Short of Competent Men.

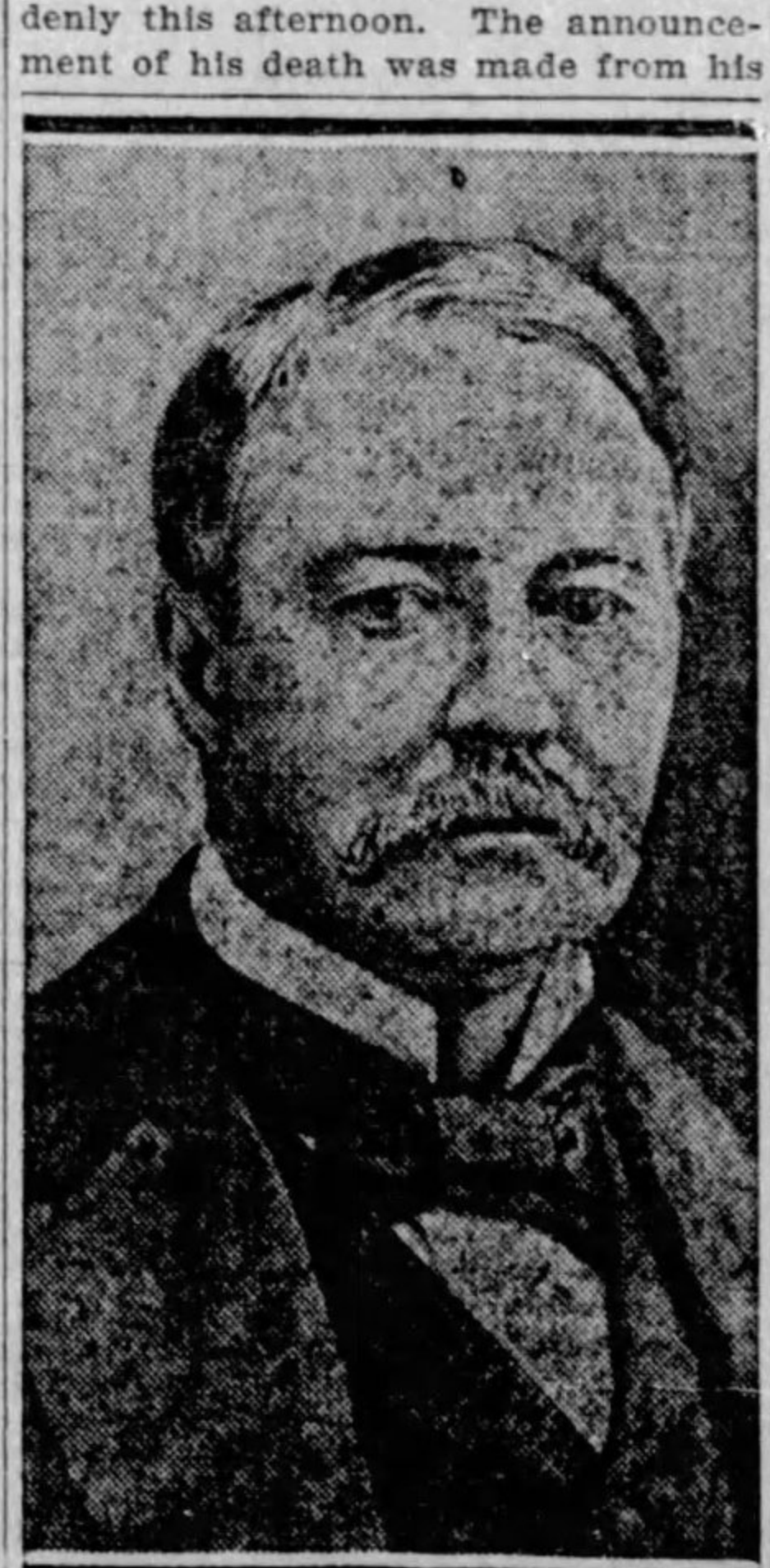
Washington, Dec. 29.—The bureau of insular affairs today made known the fact that more stenographers are needed in the Philippine service. The list of eligibles has become exhausted and another examination will be held January 28 by the civil service commission.

General Clarence Edwards, chief of the bureau, said today that one of the noticeable results of the workings of the civil service system in the Philippines has been the advancement of young men originally appointed after passing the stenographer examination, who have demonstrated their ability and worked their way up. The position at first pays $1,200 per annum.

HEAD OF PENNSY IS DEAD

Heart Disease Closed Career of Great Railroader.

Philadelphia, Dec. 28.—President Alexander J. Cassatt, of the Pennsylvania Railroad company, died suddenly this afternoon. The announcement of his death was made from his office shortly before 2 o'clock in the following bulletin:



A·J·CASSATT

"Mr. A. J. Cassatt, president of the Pennsylvania railroad, died suddenly of heart disease at 1 p. m. today. The symptoms were those known to the profession as the Stokes-Adams syncope, and as is often the case under these circumstances, death was instantaneous."

The news of Mr. Cassatt's death flashed over the wires shortly after 1 o'clock, comes like a thunderbolt from a clear sky, for while there have been rumors of late regarding a precarious condition of his health, the published stories have been promptly denied, and the public had been led to believe they were without foundation. Mr. Cassatt, for a number of years, has been at the head of the Pennsylvania, one of the greatest railroad systems in the world. Within the last two months he celebrated his sixty-seventh birthday, and had he lived he would retire from the office of president in three years in accordance with the rules of the Pennsylvania pension system. Mr. Cassatt was regarded as one of the most able railroad managers in the world.

CHILEAN TOWN HARD HIT

Earthquake Destroys Half of Arica and Panic Results.

Santiago, Chile, Dec. 27.—Half of the town of Arica, in the province of Tacna, has been destroyed by an earthquake, and other towns in the neighborhood have suffered more or less severely. The seaport of Iquique, 120 miles south of Arica, was not damaged. With the recollection of the August disaster fresh in their minds, the people in the earthquake zone are greatly alarmed.

JAPS FEWER IN HAWAII

Gov. Vardaman Goes to Make Personal Investigation

Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 27.—Advices from Scooba and Wahalak, Miss., where race rioting required the presence of troops, say that quiet prevails at both towns as well as throughout the surrounding territory and that the troops and civil officers have control of the situation.

According to the most trustworthy reports, the disturbance of the last few days in Kemper county were not as serious as at first reported. The trouble is attributed to the actions of a reckless mob, which, in searching for a negro who attacked Conductor Cooper aboard a Mobile & Ohio train last Sunday and shot and killed Constable O'Brien, of Wahalak, killed three negroes and wounded several others. The feeling against the negroes was intensified by the killing by negroes of Conductor R. N. Harrison, of the Mobile & Ohio railroad at Crawford's on Monday night, and, believing that the mob was beyond control, Deputy Sheriff Alexander at Scooba asked that troops be sent there in order that innocent negroes might be protected. Two companies of state troops are now encamped at Scooba.

Late last evening Governor Vardaman, accompanied by twenty-five members of the company of state militia stationed at Jackson, left for Scooba. Governor Vardaman stated that there had been no fresh outbreak, but that he was going to make a personal investigation.

An Associated Press representative, who arrived at Scooba last night, found the streets crowded with negroes who had gathered from miles around. They were highly excited, but there was nothing threatening in their demeanor. According to their statements, most of them fled to the town through fear that violence would be done them if they remained in the country.

With companies of militia patrolling the streets, there seemed to be little apprehension among either whites or negroes. Many of the people in the town are lending the troops their heartiest co-operation in enforcing order. Among these whites the opinion is freely expressed that the entire trouble was uncalled for and could have been avoided.

CALL ACTION BRUTAL

American Suffragists Indignant at Treatment by England.

Philadelphia, Dec. 28.—The National American Woman Suffrage association, through its president, the Rev. Anna Howard Shaw, has sent the following letter, signed by all the officers of the national association to the officers and members of the Women's Political and Social Union of England:

"The suffragists in America have read with the keenest interest the reports in the press of your efforts to secure a hearing and a vote from parliament upon the vital question of woman suffrage; and we, the officers of the National American Woman Suffrage association, wish to express our cordial sympathy with your object, our admiration of your earnestness and self-sacrifice and our indignation for the brutality with which you have been treated, as well as for the unworthy and interminable delays by which a minority in parliament has been able to hinder the will of the majority from taking effect.

"Our hearts go out to you in your courageous and unselfish devotion to a great principle, and we believe the very severity of the government will have the effect of arousing the indifferent and convincing the undecided, and it will hasten the day of full enfranchisement.

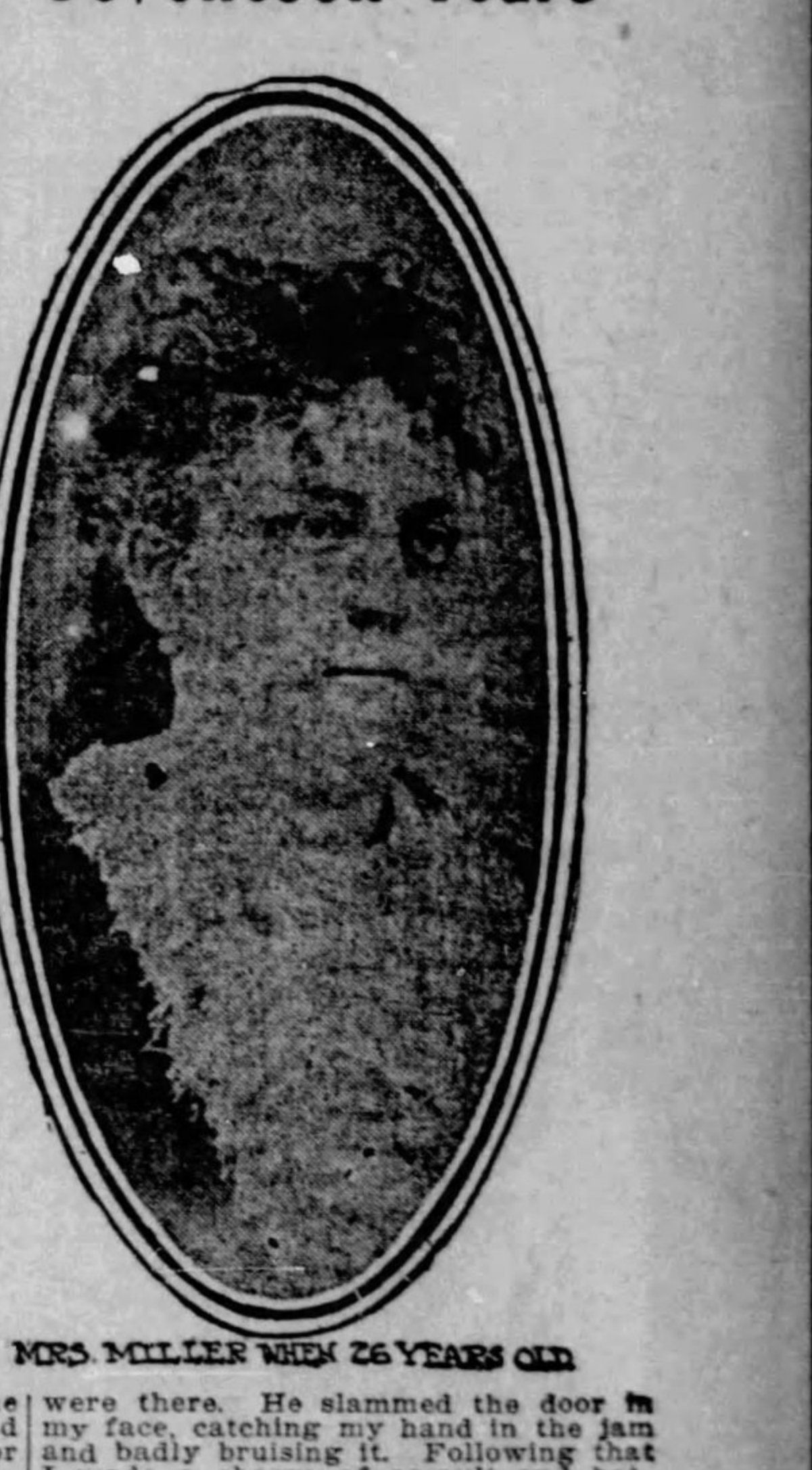
"May your brave hearts be sustained and wisdom granted by that power which in all ages has called into service those who were worthy to be the forerunners and martyrs for truth's sake."

ANOTHER IROQUOIS VICTIM

Chicago, Dec. 29.—After suffering for three years, lacking two days, from injuries received in the Iroquois theatre fire, Mrs. Carrie Kuh, wife of a wealthy business man of this city, died yesterday. Mrs. Kuh was burned severely in the fire, and after lying at the point of death for several weeks, was partially cured by skin grafting. The shock, however, left her an invalid.

Woman Who Was Kept in Madhouse Seventeen Years

MRS. ELIZABETH MILLER



MRS. MILLER WHEN 26 YEARS OLD

New York, Dec. 28.—Breaking the silence of years, Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, mother of Ida May Miller Kuehn, the "lost Philadelphia heiress," told for the first time a remarkable story of seventeen years' incarceration in an insane asylum, of inhumanities she suffered at the hands of her husband, of estate juggling, missing property and of an alleged conspiracy which has deprived her of approximately $100,000.

She declares she was never out of her mind, although she spent seventeen weary years in an asylum in Norristown, Pa. Her husband sent her there, she says, because he wanted to get her out of the way, and other persons interested in keeping her silent tried to keep her in the asylum after the death of her husband.

Possessed of a fortune under the terms of her husband's will, she has received only $200, she says, since his death, and has had to work and save to get along, receiving no aid from relatives. There is nothing about her to suggest insanity. On the contrary, she talks fluently and gives every evidence of a str[illegible] [illegible]ert mentality.

"My story," she said, "is merely the record of a wrecked life, and it would have remained my own secret but for the unfortunate marriage of my daughter. So many untruths have been printed about me that I will gladly make public a few facts. As to my being insane, I will let you make your own inferences. I never have been irresponsible, although I confess I willingly spent many years in an asylum—anything was heaven compared with the life I led with my husband during the years that he laid the foundation for the fortune which has been the subject of so much discussion.

"It has been juggled with and mismanaged until there is no telling how large it is. It was certainly worth not less than $200,000 at the time of my husband's death, and I would not be surprised if it was worth twice that. Although a brutal husband—an inhuman husband—Mr. Miller was a shrewd dealer and he got everything out of everyone and everything. He had at least a dozen houses in various parts of Philadelphia, and nothing has been heard of them since his death—by me, at least.

"Dr. Kuehn's feeling for me was well defined when I called at my daughter's house some time ago and asked if she were there. He slammed the door in my face, catching my hand in the jam and badly bruising it. Following that I made a charge of assault and battery against him, and I intend to press it. The whole matter of the estate is an outrage, and when it is probed there will be a big scandal.

"I understand Dr. Kuehn already has evidence showing that forgery has been committed by certain persons connected with the property. All access to the books kept by my husband was denied me, so there is no way of my knowing just what the value of the property was at the time of death. I do know, however, that it was in excess of what we have been led to believe, and know further that certain persons have deftly got possession of a large slice of it.

"I expected to see my daughter. She telephoned that she would call on me before she left for Philadelphia, but she did not come. She is completely under the influence of Dr. Kuehn. There is no hypnotism about it at all. She is an unsophisticated girl, and it was an easy matter, no doubt, for a man of the world like Dr. Kuehn to win her affection. For living with her in marriage relations before a formal ceremony was performed, I shall, of course, never forgive him."

LONE STAR STATE LEADS

Texas Built Largest Amount of Railroads in 1906.

During the past year railway construction in the United States has proceeded on a larger scale than for eighteen years past, and 1906 will pass into history as the year of greatest railway building since 1888. The record year for the United States in construction was 1887, when 13,000 miles of new main line track were laid, and the following year witnessed the completion of 7,106 miles. Since 1888 the figures of completed road have fluctuated between 1,803 miles in 1895 and 5,786 miles in 1903. But in no year since 1887 has so much construction been under way as during 1906, and except for the delays encountered in the scarcity of labor and the difficulty in securing rails the results in track laid for the year just closing would have exceeded those of 1888.

The Railway Age has made a thorough canvass of the entire country, and while some small roads are yet to be heard from, returns show that since January 1 last 6,067 miles of track have been laid on 388 lines in 44 states and territories.

The tabulated statement shows that Texas leads the list with 701.30 miles of new road, and that Massachusetts is the lowest with 4.50 miles. Ohio is close to the tail-end with 55 miles. However, there are several New England states, including New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island and Connecticut, and the middle states of New Jersey and Delaware, which report no new track. Louisiana and South Dakota are neck and neck for second place, with 391 and 389 miles respectively.

Commenting on the various features of the reports the Railway Age says:

"Last March we published a summary which showed that 13,000 miles of new railroad were then under contract, and since that time contracts for several thousand miles more have been awarded. But the work of building has been seriously retarded by the two causes above noted—labor shortage and scarcity of rails. The demand for more workmen has been almost universal. On the line of the Western Pacific the contractors for months have been advertising for 5,000 more laborers, but without much success. This road is now under contract for the entire 929 miles from Salt Lake City to San Francisco, and while over 100 miles of track have been laid on the eastern end, work in Nevada and California has been held back by the lack of workmen. On many other important extensions similar conditions have prevailed for months and the result is that much new mileage which had been planned for completion this year will have to be carried over into 1907.

"Other roads which have been more fortunate in securing the labor for the work of grading have found it impossible to obtain steel for tracklaying, and many hundreds of miles of grade have been completed for ninety days or more on which further work has been suspended until spring because the mills have been unable to supply the steel.

"The main line mileage of the United States on January 1, 1906, according to Poor's Manual, was 217,072.34 miles, and the 6,067.4 miles completed during the past 12 months gives the country 223,139.74 miles of railroad at the close of 1906.

"In Canada there has been great activity in railway building during the past year. On the new transcontinental line—the Grand Trunk Pacific—1,300 miles are under contract and the work of grading has been under way for the greater part of the year. While it is understood that some track was laid in the provinces of Ontario and Manitoba, it was put down for the purpose of aiding the work of construction and is not regarded as completed road. For this reason the officials refuse to report any track laid. The main line of the road will be 3,600 miles in length and the various branches proposed aggregate 5,400 miles more, making it certain that there will be a great amount of work for contractors on this road for several years to come.

"The Canadian Pacific and the Canadian Northern have built many branches and extensions during the year and each company has much important work planned for the immediate future, while the Great Northern has pushed two arms across the border from North Dakota to Brandon and to Portage la Prairie, Man., and has laid 29 miles of track on the Vancouver, Victoria & Eastern from Midway, B. C., west, making a total of 175 miles of new line completed in Canada during the past year by the Great Northern system. There is much difficut construction on the mountain section of the Vancouver, Victoria & Eastern between Midway and Vancouver, and it will require several years to complete the line. Work on Hr. Hill's main line from Winnipeg to Fernie, B. C., 850 miles has been confined to surveying, and there is nothing to indicate when the active work of construction will begin, although Mr. Hill does not admit that he has abandoned the idea of building a transcontinental line across western Canada, as has been intimated in some quarters.

"The returns from Canada, while, perhaps, not entirely complete, show 972.71 miles of track laid during the past twelve months on 31 lines, of which 292 miles were built by the Canadian Pacific and 347 by the Canadian Northern system.

"Incomplete returns from Mexico show 245 miles of track laid on 9 lines."

SAW NEGROES SHOOTING

Citizens Say Rifles Were Fired From Ft. Brown.

Brownsville, Texas, Dec. 29.—George W. Randall, a retired business man, and his wife, testified in the investigation as to the riotous acts alleged to have been committed by members of the Twenty-fifth infantry, colored, being conducted by Assistant United States Attorney General M. D. Purdy, at the instance of President Roosevelt, here yesterday.

They live in a second story of a building just across the street from Fort Brown, and swore that they saw soldiers shooting from the inside of the garrison wall on the night of the outrage, the soldiers afterward jumping over the wall and invading the town.

Mrs. Kate Leahy corroborated this evidence and counted sixteen negro soldiers participating in the shooting.

In all twenty citizens testified today practically to the same effect. Photographs of places fired into were taken and bullet holes counted. A new Springfield army bullet of improved pattern was found embedded behind a bed room mirror, and will be taken to Washington.

TO WED AUGUST WILLIAM

Princess Alexandra Victoria Betrothed to Kaiser's Fourth Son.

Berlin, Dec. 27.—Princess Alexandra Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Glucksburg, has been betrothed to Prince Augustus William, fourth son of Emperor William.

Princess Alexandra is the second daughter of Duke Frederick of Schleswig - Holstein - Sonderburg - Glucksburg. She was born in April, 1887.

Prince Augustus was born January 26, 1887.

SOUTH DENOUNCES RIOTS

Hoodlums Are Responsible for Killing Innocent Negroes.

New Orleans, Dec. 27.—That white men protected innocent negroes, and that every effort is making by the whites to punish those white men who were responsible for the Christmas riots in Kemper county, Mississippi, was the information in detailed accounts arriving here today.

"A conference has been held," these dispatches say, "between the civil and military authorities at which evidence was produced that will establish the identity of five white men of good families of the county who took part in the attacks on the negroes.

District Attorney Currie has made a public statement in which he says: 'Find that the trouble was caused by a lot of outlaws who openly violated all laws of God and man and decency. The four men killed Christmas day were not connected with the affair in any manner, and I am informed that the houses burned were occupied by negroes who were not even in sympathy with any of those who were connected with the outrages. These men will be captured if it is in the power of the state to do so.' "

The dispatches say the total death list is probably twelve, that the mob element among the whites has mostly fled toward the Alabama state line, while the negroes have gathered at Scooba and Wahalak to place themselves under the protection of troops or of citizens. The killing of a negro named Calvin Nicholson is reported as "one of the most brutal which has occurred since the days of reconstruction." Nicholson was a negro of the best class. While a posse was searching for a negro named Simpson, who had killed a deputy, they entered Nicholson's house, and several persons began shooting at him. Deputy Sheriff Alexander and two others rushed to the negro, shielding him with their bodies. They protected him until overpowered, after which he was shot and his house burned. District Attorney Currie says he has fixed the blame for this murder upon three men and will arrest them if they are still in the state.

MANY WORKMEN KILLED

Lodz the Scene of Terroristic Disturbances.

Lodz, Dec. 29.—The proprietors of the largest factories here, employing 1,300 persons, today announced their intention of closing their establishments this evening. The announcement caused excitement among the inhabitants of this city as well as among the better classes. Employes, as a rule, are without means to support themselves. One of the principal owners informed a correspondent of the Associated Press that the employers were compelled to close business because the militant Socitlists control the entire city and are murdering all those who do not accept their demands.

The Socialists here have murdered not less than a score of workmen.

The manager of the Scheiblers cotton mills and the foreman and engineer of another factory were murdered by the Socialists and the workmen of those and other establishments, refused this morning to return to their work.

Consequently four of the largest cotton mills shut down today and others will close this evening. The four which locked out their men this morning were the two Bichiblor mills and the Poznaski and Grohman mills, which collectively employ about 2,500 men, but double that number are indirectly affected.

Several street encounters occurred during the morning. The engineers are leaving. Many of the wealthiest inhabitants of Lodz have left.

The situation is rapidly becoming acute. Six persons have been killed and twelve wounded today. It is generally anticipated that the workmen will secure the upper hand over the Socialists, drive out the agitators and resume work within a few days.

The principal bankers say they do not fear any financial difficulties among the firms which have been forced to close down their works.

CUBA RESTLESS AGAIN

Lawless Bands Resume Activity in Santa Clara.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Secretary Taft has received advices from Governor Magoon, at Havana, indicating that a more or less unsettled condition of affairs exists in certain parts of Cuba, and that in Santa Clara province some lawless bands are operating and pillaging. Therefore at the governor's instance General Bell has ordered a considerable re-enforcement of the garrison of American troops in that province. For the first time since the second occupation of the island by the Americans, it has become necessary for the troops to undertake themselves the suppression of these disorders instead of leaving this task to the native Cuban rurales, which in some quarters is regarded as an indication of the inability of the Cuban civil authorities to permanently maintain peace in the island.

General Bell, in company with General Wint, who will succeed him Jan. 1 in command of the American troops in Cuba, is now making a tour of the island with special reference to the military necessities in case further disturbances occur.

CITIZENSHIP NOT ENOUGH

Porto Ricans Want Self-Government as Well, Says Cintron.

San Juan, P. R., Dec. 29.—R. Matienso Cintron, the speaker of the house of delegates and the leader of the Unionist party, has published an article in La Correspondencia, the party organ, in which he criticizes the message of President Roosevelt to the American congress containing references to Porto Rico. Senor Cintron says that citizenship without self-government has no value, and is even debasing. To grant Porto Ricans citizenship without self-government would be equal to saying to the world that the terms "American citizenship" and "servitude" are synonymous. This idea is impossible of acceptance, but should it become a fact, Senor Cintron says in conclusion that would be the hour to say to the people of Porto Rico, "prepare yourselves to win victory with sword and gun."

CAN'T PULL HIS WHISKERS

Cleveland Man Gets an Injunction Against His Wife.

Cleveland, Dec. 28.—John Glade was granted an injunction yesterday to prevent his wife, Johanna Glade, pulling out any of his hairs or whiskers, interfering with his business and "jawing him on the streets of Cleveland."

Glade, in his petition for divorce, says that his wife, whom he married in 1905, has a way of jumping on him, pulling out his hair and whiskers and otherwise annoying him. "She has pulled out great quantities of my hair and whiskers," he said.

LUDWIG DINES TOWER.

Darmstadt, Grand Duchy of Hesse, Dec. 28.—Ambassador Tower was received in audience by Grand Duke Ernest Ludwig today and presented him with the medal awarded in acknowledgment of his services to the St. Louis exposition. The ambassador afterward dined with the grand duke.

INDIANS BUTCHER EIGHT

Traveler Through Mexico Depicts Grewsome Sights.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 27.—Col. H. B. Maxson, vice-president of the National Irrigation Congress and secretary of the board of education at Reno, Nev., who has been spending the past few weeks in the state of Sonora, Mex., arrived here yesterday with a graphic story of a massacre of Mexicans and whites which occurred at the little town of Lancho, on the Cananea, Yaqui River & Pacific railway Saturday afternoon. According to the statement of Maxson, his train stopped an hour at Lancho. While there rumors were received that the Yaquis were upon the warpath and that the few people in the neighborhood of the station and railroad were in danger. The station master, a man named Thompson, belittled the matter, and he said he and his wife would remain at their post.

The train bearing Col. Maxson and party had not left the station for more than an hour when the Yaquis descended on the little party of Mexicans and Americans and butchered four. Station Agent Thompson and his wife escaped by boarding a work train that pulled in at the time. The train appeared after four of the people had been killed and Thompson and his wife had defended themselves back of the barricaded doors of the station. As the work train appeared the Indians withdrew. The train bearing Col. Maxson and party continued to a station about 15 miles farther along the line and then as the signs of the uprising became more alarming, the party decided to return. The train started back toward Lancho and when it arrived the station house had been burned and demolished, and four human bodies lay along the track.

The party stopped a few minutes in the hope that the survivors might be found and taken to a place of safety. While the train was at the ruins of the station the desperadoes appeared in the distance, but did not come within range of the few armed people on the train. The bodies of the victims were still warm when Maxson saw them, and with the aid of others on the train they were given hasty burial.

Not many miles along the road the scene was duplicated. Four more dead bodies of Mexicans and Americans were discovered along the tracks. The little band at this station had been able to repulse the attack of the Yaquis with the loss of but four of their number. The remaining members of the company refused to leave on the train, but said that they could stand off the Indians until the next day when the Rurales would reach the spot and summary justice would be meted out to the murderers if captured.

YAQUIS KILLED TWELVE.

Eleven Mexicans and One American Died at Redskins' Hands.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 27.—A special from Nogales, Mex., today, says:

"Details are arriving here of the butchery of a party of Mexicans by Yaqui Indians near Valencia, sixty miles below Guayamas. Eleven Mexicans and one American were killed, and, from all accounts, there were over a hundred Indians in the attacking party. The employes on the Southern Pacific railroad in that section are frightened. It is said many are leaving and that the massacre may delay the road to Guadalajara."

BATTLE OF THE GIANTS

Rothschilds Enter Lists Against the Standard.

New York, Dec. 25.—A gigantic oil trust has been organized in Europe, backed by the Rothschild family, which will control fields in Russia, Austria and Roumania, producing more crude petroleum than the United States. This combination will be in direct competition with the Standard Oil company in Europe, and with the resources of the Rothschilds as capital may invade this country.

This news is received by the Standard Oil company in two dispatches from its Berlin and Paris correspondents. The first announced that the Steana Romana, the controlling oil company, had made a large increase in capital entirely subscribed for by a French syndicate, and the second positively identified this syndicate as the Rothschilds. The Steana Romana has its headquarters in Bucharest and formerly controlled only the old fields of Rumania. These produce only 4,000,000 barrels of crude petroleum a year, but are capable of great development if sufficient capital is employed. The combination now owns, in addition to this, fields in Russia producing 83,000,000 barrels annually and in Austria producing 6,000,000. The total yearly production of the United States is 90,000,000 barrels.

The Rothschilds have been interested in the Russian oil fields for a number of years, but did not start to organize the present combination until the agitation against the Standard Oil company began in this country.

PRESIDENT STARTS HUNT

Rain Clears Away and Lets Chief Executive Out.

Charlottesville, Va., Dec. 28.—On former visits to Pine Knot the morning of the first day usually found the President in the woods, but a drizzling rain interfered with his plans today. At 10 o'clock, however, the sun peered through the clouds and a message was sent to "Uncle Dick," at Plain Dealing, to get things in shape for a hunt after lunch and the colored servant started for Pine Knot. The start from the Roosevelt cottage was made at 1 o'clock, the President being accompanied by his sons, Admiral Rixey, Lieutenant Hamner and William and Joseph Wilmer. The party headed for Green Mountain and unless a heavy rain comes up the entire afternoon will be spent in the woods in quest of wild turkey and smaller game.

WANT FISH IN NEW LAKE

Cleveland and Others Ask Stocking of Carnegie Gift.

Trenton, N. J., Dec. 28.—Former President Grover Cleveland and a number of other Princetonians have made application to the national government, through Congressman Wood, of this city, for the stocking of Carnegie Lake at Princeton with game fish. Mr. Wood endorsed the application and forwarded it to Washington.

LEITER CHAUFFEUR FREED

Coroner's Jury Returns Verdict of "Unavoidable Accident."

Washington, Dec. 27.—The coroner's jury returned a verdict of "unavoidable accident" in its inquest yesterday over the body of Samuel West, the 14-year-old colored boy who was run over and killed by Joseph Leiter's automobile Tuesday. Mr. Leiter directed that the boy's body be turned over to an undertaker and the funeral expenses will be met by him. Mr. Leiter also will make a pecuniary allowance for the family of the dead boy. Charles H. Raymond, the chauffeur, was released from custody.

CLEMENCEAU AVOIDS 13

Head of French Cabinet Said to Be Superstitious.

Paris, Dec. 25.—The attempt of French suffragettes to imitate their English sisters and besiege the chamber of deputies in a crowd before the opening of the big church debate, proved a fizzle. A mass meeting was summoned for 11 o'clock in the morning before the chamber met, but at that time only five women were present and at the end of the hour only fifteen had made their appearance. Most of these, according to an ungallant reporter, were sexagenarians. But their numerical weakness proved to be their strength. They were immediately allowed to enter and confer for an hour with the Socialist group who were the sole occupants of the chamber. They departed apparently satisfied with the impression they had made.

The Cride Paris says Premier Clemenceau is as superstitious as Napoleon was. It says that when the Sarrien cabinet was constituted, on March 12, M. Clemenceau had the official promulgation put off until the 14th in order to avoid the number 13. Now he has under secretaries attend the cabinet council, as otherwise the council would number 13. The paper adds that M. Clemenceau is anxious that at all hazards his cabinet shall endure beyond January 6, believing that then it will last indefinitely, as on that day it will equal the endurance of the Gambetta ministry.

The Petit Parisian had just taken a plebiscite among its readers, whom it asked to name the ten greatest Frenchmen of the nineteenth century. The result from the 15,000,000 votes cast runs as follows: Pasteur, Hugo, Gambetta, Napoleon, Thiers, Carnot, Curie, Dumas, Roux and Parmentier.

The fame of the last named is due to his introduction of potatoes in France. There are two things that cause surprise in the foregoing list. One is that Napoleon's position is only fourth, and the other is that only one living scientist is included, M. Roux, director of the Pasteur Institute.

O. K. FOR PLUM PUDDING

London Lancet Has Defense for the Delicacy.

London, Dec. 25.—The Lancet, which so often points out the terrible and unsuspected dangers to health encountered in every day life, publishers with reasonable optimism a hearty defense of the Christmas pudding.

"It is accused of indigestibility," says the Lancet, "but a synthetical consideration of all the events would indicate the reverse to be the case. * * * For an individual enjoying average health the ingredients of plum pudding should offer no physiological stumbling block.

The paper then points out that the pudding is generally eaten after a extra large, heavy meal and unjustly gets blamed for what is really the result of overeating.

"The Christmas pudding," says the Lancet, "is a meal for a hungry man, for it is hardly possible to conceive a more complete food. Eggs supply plenty of proteid, suet a sufficiency of fat and bread crumbs, fruit and sugars a generous proportion of carbohydrates. Moreover, most of these carry the further necessaries of human diet, namely, mineral salts."

RURAL GUARDS ENOUGH

American Troops Sent for Moral Effect Only.

Havana, Dec. 27.—No further advices have been received here regarding the disorders in Santa Clara province. The American troops which were sent into the district from Camp Columbia will scout through the province. Governor Magoon said yesterday he had no intention of using these troops to suppress the roving bands of negroes in Santa Clara, but that practice marches in the disturbed district would have a good moral effect and support the rural guards, to whom he entrusted the actual work of scattering the marauders, and give confidence to the owners of sugar estates desiring protection.

A freight train has been held up at Alto Cerro, on the Cuba Central railroad, 125 miles east of Camaguey, supposedly by men in sympathy with the strikers in the railroad shops at Camaguey. Rural guardemen have been dispatched to the scene.

Governor Magoon has signed a decree authorizing the expenditure of $49,000 incurred in preparing the barracks at Camp Columbia for the occupancy of the American troops.

JERUSALEM IS GROWING

Ancient City Seems to be Getting Renewed Vitality.

London, Dec. 25. — New suburbs around Jerusalem, says the Builder, are spreading with rapidity, and an important European town on the Plain of Rephain, a tract of barren, stony ground which stretches from Jerusalem half way to Bethlehem, is becoming covered with houses and gardens. A supply of water, which formerly was supposed to be non-existent, now seems to be sufficient at this point.

The houses are being built in some cases by German workmen, although the majority of the occupants are the indefinable Levantines. Soon these houses—and among them several manufactory chimneys are visible—will have reached the ridge which separates Jerusalem and the Plain of Rephain from Rachel's tomb and Bethlehem.

CUTTING HER FOURTH SET

Santa Brings Baltimore Woman Bunch of Real Teeth.

Baltimore, Dec. 25.—Mrs. Annie Pugh, aged sixty years, of Gore, Frederick county, Va., who is now visiting her son-in-law here, is cutting her fourth set of teeth.

While, as she says, it is very painful, she exhibits them proudly to any doubters. There are two canine teeth, one on either side, nearly out of the gum, while all along the upper and lower gums are little white spots which denote other teeth to arrive. Her mouth is like that of a baby, all of her third set of teeth being extacted last spring by her son-in-law, Dr. Alfred M. Shagogue, with whom she is staying, so that she might be fitted with a set of false ones.

When she was told that she was cutting more teeth, Mrs. Pugh discarded the false ones, and is now waiting for her new set.

JEW FREEDOM UP TO DUMA

Some Reforms Will Be Carried Out Before It Meets, However.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Semi-official advices to the department of state convey the information that the question of permission for Jews to acquire land in all parts of Russia and removal of the limits for Jewish settlement, will be left to the duma, but that the following measures will be carried out before the summoning of the duma:

The removal of the restrictive police regulations in twenty-five governments lying within the Jewish pale; the promulgation of similar arrangements for Jews outside the pale and the removal of the restriction under which Jews labor regarding trade.

NEBOGATOFF SENTENCED

Death Is the Penalty but Clemency Is Asked.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 25.—The courtmartial which has been trying Rear Admiral Nebogatoff and 78 officers of his squadron for surrendering to the Japanese at the battle of the Sea of Japan, on May 28, 1905, handed in its decisions last night. Vice Admiral Nebogatoff, Commander Lichino, of the coast defense ironclad; General Admiral Apraine, Rear Admiral Gregorieff, of the coast defense ship; Admiral Znlavin and Lieutenant Smirnoff, who succeeded to the command of the battleship Nicolai I, were sentenced to death, but in view of extenuating circumstances and the long and otherwise blameless careers of these officers, the court will petition the emperor to commute their sentences to ten years' imprisonment in a fortress.

Four other officers are sentenced to short terms of imprisonment in a fortress, while the remainder are acquitted of the charge brought against them.

The trial of Rear Admiral Nebogatoff and the officers of his squadron began in St. Petersburg on December 5. The accused were divided into three categories:

First—Rear Admiral Nebogatoff and the commanders of the battleships.

Second—The officers who advocated the surrender.

Third—The officers who did not endeavor to prevent the surrender.

The first group of officers was tried under that paragraph of the navy regulations which provides for the punishment by death of any commander of a squadron or ship who surrenders without a fight when he could save his crew or inflict damage upon the enemy.

FAMINE IS APPALLING

Unless Relief Comes Quickly Millions May Die.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 27.—Advices were received yesterday by the steamship Tosu Maru that China has decided to appeal to Europe and America for $1,250,000 for relief of famine sufferers in Central China, where ten million Chinese are faced with starvation this winter. People, maddened by hunger, are reported to be pillaging. A foreigner who has reached Shanghai from the famine stricken district says that men and women, naked excepting for a few rags around their loins, are seen by the roadsides starving, with naked children at their breasts. Refugees were met who had tramped from Hunan. The famine threatens to equal the appalling one of thirty years ago, which devastated the northern provinces of China and destroyed hundreds of thousands of people. From one point the outlook is worse than then, as the district is now more thickly populated.

EUROPE IS STORM-SWEPT

Snow and Wind Cause Havoc on Continent.

London, Dec. 29.—A thaw has set in here and the weather conditions in the provinces are very bad. The railroad companies hope that the usual traffic will be resumed in the course of the day.

Several of the Scottish lines after having been blocked for two days were reopened this morning. Edinburgh, Carlisle and other large places which were isolated by the storm are again in communication with the outer world.

Scarborough, Eng., Dec. 29.—The steamer reported last night to be in distress off this port was the steamer Siward, bound from Odessa to Newcastle. She lost her propeller in the storm and was nearly driven on the dreaded Filey Brig, when she found holding ground for her anchors, and rode through the night safely.

Cadiz, Dec. 29.—A terrific storm is prevailing in the Straits of Gibralter. Many ships have sought shelter in various ports along the coast.

The Belgian steamer Heidelberg, bound for Havana, has been lost. Several of her crew were drowned.

Paris, Dec. 29.—The continent is covered with the heaviest fall of snow in years. Railroad traffic in France, Spain, Switzerland and Belgium is seriously hampered.

STORM CAUSES DISTRESS

Many Frozen to Death in Recent British Blizzard.

London, Dec. 28.—All the members of the crew of the Japanese liner, Awa Maru, from Antwerp for Middleborough, which ran on the rocks off Redcar last night, were safely taken off by the lifeboats.

A telegram from Holyhead says an unknown vessel was foundered off Rhoscolyn Point, Wales. Distress rockets were sent up last night and a life boat put out and searched for hours, but found no sign of the vessel in distress.

Nine persons have been found frozen to death on roads in England alone during the past 24 hours. The list doubtless will be much lengthened when communication with localities now snowbound is restored.

RUSSIAN POLICE ARE BUSY

"Flying Section" Gathers in Nearly Six Hundred Prisoners.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 28.—The "flying section" of the secret police, according to a report of Prefect Von Der Launitz, made 588 arrests in this city during the last three days. The prisoners, who include 33 women, are charged with "revolutionary activity and illegal election agitation." Further arrests and searches are proceeding vigorously. The activity of the police is due to the recent attempt on the life of Vice Admiral Doubasoff, ex-governor of Moscow, and the assassination of Count Alexis Ignatieff at Tver, December 22. The leaders of the revolutionists, by an overwhelming majority, have resolved to ceaselessly pursue "their just campaign of removal, intimidating being the only effective weapon against the iniquitous regime." The more moderate members of the revolutionary party have been won over to the side of the extremists through the action of the authorities in prohibiting electoral meetings of the opposition parties.

HAVANA GETTING PANICKY

Washington, Dec. 27.—Gov. Magoon, at Havana, cabled Secretary Taft yesterday that a Havana newspaper had printed a story to the effect that Japanese had been heard intriguing to obtain control in Cuba. Gov. Magoon ridiculed the story and Secretary Taft also characterized it as absurd and ridiculous.

GIFT FROM CARNEGIE.

Philadelphia, Dec. 25.—The college of physicians in this city has received a Christmas present from Andrew Carnegie of a $100,000 donation to help build a home and library. The offer is contingent upon the college being able to raise a like sum, of which $80,000 has already ben subscribed.

PANAMA TRADE INCREASE

Exports to Isthmus Jump 11 Millions in 2 Years.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 31—The exports from the United States to Panama are increasing with very great rapidity. The exports to Panama during the year just ending will aggregate a little more than 14 million dollars, against nearly 8 millions in 1905, and a little more than 2½ millions in 1904. The figures for the full year have not yet reached the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor; but those for the eleven months ending with November were $12,956,871, and, as the figures fro the single month of November were $1,273,507, it is quite apparent that the grand total for the full calendar year will exceed 14 million dollars.

These figures cover only the exports to Panama sent in merchant vessels and do not include that sent by government transports or naval vessels. What proportion of this total of over 14 million dollars' worth of merchandise sent by merchant vessels to Panama is sent for the government, or by its representatives, can not be determined at present, since the shipments of this character when sent by vessels engaged in the general transportation of commerce are treated in the same manner as merchandise sent by individual exporters or firms. While a considerable part of the merchandise exported to Panama is doubtless for the use of the government, or at least for use in the work upon the canal or the Panama railroad, an examination of the list of articles forming this total indicates that a large part consists of articles of food and clothing or other merchandise intended for individual use rather than for the canal works. Nor can it be determined just what proportion of this total goes for use of citizens of Panama located outside of the canal zone, since merchandise intended for citizens of Panama may pass through the ports located within the canal zone and thence into the hands of the merchants of the state outside of the canal zone. The fact that the value of the native products sent from Panama to the United States aggregates three-fourths of a million dollars annually, and that the purchasing power of the people adjacent to the canal zone is doubtless greatly augmented by their trade relations with those employed upon the works of the canal, suggests that perhaps 2 million dollars' worth may be destined for importers and dealers located outside the canal zone but within the republic of Panama.

These figures, it should be added, do not include the value of merchandise sent from one coast of the United States to the other by way of Panama, since the bureau of statistics maintains a separate statement for merchandise of this class, showing between 2 and 3 million dollars' worth of merchandise annually passing from San Francisco to New York by way of the isthmus and between 5 and 6 million dollars' worth passing from New York to San Francisco by way of the isthmus.

This movement of merchandise from the United States to Panama, aggregating over 14 million dollars during the year, exclusive of that sent in government ships, has been continuous, seldom falling below a million dollars a month, and in one or two cases exceeding 1¼ millions a month. In the single month of January the total was $1,059,574; in February, a short month, $979,692; in March, $1,689,718; in April, $1,334,914; in May, $1,297,174; in June, $1,296,455; in July, $923,397; in August, $1,176,102; in September, $857,510; in October, $1,069,828; and in November, $1,273,507.

About two-thirds of this total of exports to Panama goes from the port of New York. In the fiscal year 1906, the latest date for which statements of shipments to countries by ports are available, the grand total of exports to Panama were $12,460,289, and of this total the amount shipped from New York was $8,395,679; from New Orleans, $1,665,269; from Baltimore, $624,648; from Pearl River, Miss., $328,191; from Norfolk and Portsmouth, Va., $321,317; from Mobile, Ala., $321,082; from San Francisco, $257,701; from Brunswick, Ga., $236,315; and from Philadelphia, $130,513.

YAQUIS RAIDED A TOWN

Killed Several and Took Others Captive at Lancho.

Bisbee, Ariz., Dec. 29.—Details received yesterday say that last Saturday evening, a Yaqui Indian band attacked and destroyed the new town of Lancho on the Cananea, Yaqui River & Pacific railway, southeast of Guayamas, Sonora, Mexico.

They murdered ten men, women and children, fatally shot two others and took the women away captives to their stronghold in the hills, not far from the burning town.

The Indians retired from the town after nearly two hours of plunder and arson, being frightened away by a work train from Guayamas, which they doubtless mistook for a relief train. Soldiers from the fort two miles east, entered the town fifteen minutes later.

There is a fort and a garrison of one hundred soldiers just west of the sacked town.

Mexico Says Four Dead.

City of Mexico, Dec. 29.—According to the official report of the uprising of Yaqui Indians in Sonora, no Americans were killed and the total number of deaths was four, two men and two women, all Mexicans. Besides these, four Mexicans were wounded.

Lancho, where the raid occurred, is within three miles of Torin, the military center of the district, where 2,000 troops are stationed. As soon as the firing was heard General Lorenzo Torres, in command of the troops, took the field in pursuit of the Yaquis. The soldiers will remain out until the Indians are killed or captured.

TROOPS LEAVE SCOOBA

Vardaman Finds Conditions Quiet in Kemper County.

Meridian, Miss., Dec. 28.—All the troops stationed at Scooba, the scene of the recent race troubles, returned yesterday evening in charge of Governor Vardaman. Returning military officials and others comment unfavorably on the reports that have been sent out broadcast regarding the situation at Scooba. The condition there is reported quiet, and apprehension of further trouble is passed. Railroad officials say there have been no fresh outbreaks.

COREY IS NOW IN PARIS

He Denies That He Is to Marry Mabelle Gilman.

Paris, Dec. 31.—W. E. Corey, president of the United States Steel corporation, has arrived here. Any statement that he is to be married to Miss Mabelle Gilman in the immediate future or during his present visit to Europe is untrue, he declares.

THE MARKETS.

Bradstreet's View.

Bradstreet's says:

With an unparalleled volume of business for 1906, crowned by a record holiday trade, and a heavier volume of future orders booked than ever before, the commercial and industrial interests of the country look forward with confidence to the developments of 1907. While many manufacturing establishments are closed until after the turn of the year, it is noteworthy that holiday suspensions in the iron and steel, textile and various other industrial lines, were of short duration, owing to the mills being so well sold ahead. Current jobbing and wholesale trade is of the filling in order character, and while a cold snap early in the week helped retail trade in seasonable goods, the weather, on the whole, has been too mild for the fullest developments. Money continues firm and active, but easier conditions are looked for after the turn of the new year. Car shortages still prevail, though the situation is somewhat better in such sections as the northwest and parts of the south.

One of the most significant features in the entire situation is that consumers are apparently convinced of the permanency of present high prices, and, as shown by advance orders, are disposed to order ahead with liberality and confidence.

Buying of pig iron for delivery in the second half of 1907 is increasing in volume. Eastern furnaces are well sold into the third quarter of 1907. Basic pig figures largely in the contracts now being placed. Most of the business calls for delivery in the second half of 1907, while the quotations range from $22 to $23.25 at furnace. Southern pig iron brings $25 @26 ton for spot delivery, while $22 is quoted for the first quarter, $1 less for the second, $18.50@19 for the third, and $18 to $18.50 for the more distant deliveries. A significant feature is the fact that buyers appear disposed to accept the present high level of prices, the feeling in this respect being in sharp contrast to that displayed early in the summer, when there was a tendency to question the permanency of high quotations.

After the turn of the new year a very active buying movement is expected to set in.

Demand for steel rails still keeps up. New business in structural material is not large, but specifications are heavier. Coke is firm, shipments are heavy, but new business is only fair, the principal consumers being pretty well covered. Coal is in good demand. Copper is higher and spot supplies bring from 23½c to probably 23c a pound, the latter figure being for small lots. Raw sugars at New York have receded to a level corresponding to the quotations for new crop Cuban sugar, dropping from 3.875 cents to 3.58 cents (30 points), without sales. Cuban production is very large, foreshadowing a record crop, despite scarcity of labor. Beet sugar production this year exceeded that of Louisiana cane.

Business failures for the week ended December 27 in the United States number 161, against 227 last week, 212 in the like week of 1905, 218 in 1904, 209 in 1903 and 202 in 1902.

Failures in Canada for the week number 18, as against 26 last week, and 24 in this week a year ago. Wheat, including flour, exports from the United States and Canada for the week ending December 27 aggregated 2,494,832 bushels, against 3,203,824 last week, 3,448,248 this week last year, 981,140 in 1904 and 4,291,543 in 1901. For the past twenty-six weeks of the fiscal year the exports are 93,668,234 bushels, against 65,180,179 in 1905, 34,763,327 in 1904 and 146,191,303 in 1901. Corn exports for the week are 1,660,008 bushels, against 1,325,964 last week, 4,607,395 a year ago and 1,582,342 in 1904. For the fiscal year to date the exports are 23,829,489 bushels, against 36,952,948 in 1905 and 15,500,334 in 1904.

The Grain Market.

Toledo, O., Dec. 31.—Heavy selling in the northwest was responsible for an easy opening in wheat. The curb was ⅜c lower and the cables reflected Saturday's weakness by being ¼d lower. The trading was active, however. This market was ⅜c lower throughout, cash and December opening at 75⅝c, May at 80c and July at 78¼c. At noon the situation had not showed any improvement.

At the close there had been but little change, the near months advancing ⅛c at 75¾c, while the far away month gained ⅛c at 78⅜c. The market was fluctuating all day and towards the close showed the best strength of the day.

Steady cables held the corn market together and the opening was firm and unchanged. Cash and December opened at 43c, May at 44½c and July at 45⅝c. Reports from Chicago said that commission houses were large sellers and the buying was all professional.

At the close the near months had gained ¼c, closing at 43¼c, while May advanced ⅛c to 44⅝c. Offerings were free, but poor weather reports held the prices firm.

Oats have not yet reacted from the unloading movement of last week and the opening was easier, with a better tone towards noon. The near months were steady at the opening at 36½c, while the futures had lost ⅛c at 37⅞c and 35⅝c. At noon the futures had picked up their early loss and the whole list showed more strength.

Unusually light receipts and much short covering in the pit caused a good tone to prevail in this market, with the near months closing ½c up at 37c, May ¼c up at 38⅛c, and July ⅛c up at 35¾c. The visible supply showed a large decrease in receipts.

Clover seed was steady at the start to a shade lower, the near months and January opening 2½c lower at $8.30; February and March, 2½c lower, at $8.37½ and $8.42½, while April held its Saturday's price, $8.20. Receipts of seed today were 315 bags with no shipments, and 10 bags receipts of alsike.

There was no change in the market all day and the close was steady and unchanged. Estimated receipts for Wednesday are 340 bags of seed and 10 bags of alsike.

TOLEDO.

Wheat—	Open.	High.	Low.	—Close— Dc. 31.	Dc. 29.
Cash	75⅝	75¾	75½	75¾	75¾
Dec	75⅝	75¾	75½	75¾	75¾
May	80	80	79½	80	80⅛
July	78¼	78⅜	78	78⅜	78⅜
Corn—					
Cash	43	43¼	43	43¼	43
Dec	43	43¼	43	43¼	43
May	44½	44⅝	44½	44⅝	44½
July	45⅝	....	....	45⅝	45⅝
Oats—					
Cash	36½	37	36½	37	36½
Dec	36½	37	36½	37	36½
May	37⅞	38⅛	37⅞	38⅛	38
July	35⅝	35¾	35⅝	35¾	35¾
Clover Seed—					
Cash	8.30	....	....	8.30	8.32½
Dec	8.30	....	....	8.30	8.32½
Jan	8.30	....	....	8.30	8.32½
Feb	8.37½	....	....	8.37½	8.40
March	8.42½	....	....	8.42½	8.45
April	8.20	....	....	8.20	8.20
Rye—					
No. 1	70	....	....	68	70
No. 2	68	....	....	68	68
No. 3	65	....	....	64	65
Timothy—					
Prime	2.00	....	....	2.00	2.00
Alsike—					
Prime	7.52½	....	....	7.55	7.52½
Jan	7.52½	....	....	7.55	7.52½
March	7.62½	....	....	7.65	7.62½
CHICAGO.					
Wheat—					
Dec.	72¾	74	72¾	73⅛	73
May	76⅞	77	76⅝	77	77
July	76¼	76⅝	75⅞	76⅜	76⅝
Corn—					
Dec.	40⅝	40¾	39¾	39¾	40¾
May	43⅜	43⅝	43⅜	43½	43⅜
July	44	44⅛	44	44⅛	43⅞
Jan.	40⅛	40¼	39⅞	39⅞	40⅜
Sept.	44½	44⅝	44½	44⅝	44½
Oats—					
Dec.	33½	33¾	33½	33½	33½
May	36	36¼	35⅞	36	36
July	33⅜	33½	33⅜	33⅜	33⅜
Jan.	33⅜	33⅜	33½	33½	....
NEW YORK					
Wheat—					
July	....	....	....	82¾	80¾
May	83	83⅛	82¾	83⅛	83¼
Corn—					
July	50¾	....	....	50¾	52
May	50¾	50⅝	50⅝	50⅝	50⅜
ST. LOUIS.					
Wheat—					
Dec	72¾	72⅝	71⅝	71⅝	72⅛
May	75¾	76	75⅜	76	76⅛
MINNEAPOLIS.					
Wheat—					
Dec	....	....	....	74⅜	75½
May	....	....	....	77⅞	77¾
DULUTH.					
Wheat—					
Dec	....	....	....	75¾	75½
May	....	....	....	78¼	78¼
CHICAGO PROVISIONS.					
Pork—					
Jan....	15.85	15.95	15.75	15.80	15.87
May	16.37	16.47	16.30	16.37	16.45
July	16.60	....	....	16.60	16.67
Lard—					
Dec...	9.12	9.17	9.12	9.17	9.15
Jan....	9.15	9.15	9.12	9.15	9.15
May	9.27	9.32	9.27	9.30	9.30
July	9.35	9.40	9.32	9.35	9.37
Ribs—					
Jan....	8.55	8.60	8.55	8.57	8.62
May	8.85	8.87	8.82	8.82	8.87
July	8.97	9.00	8.95	8.95	9.00

Live Stock.

Toledo Union Stock Yards, Dec. 31.—Receipts of hogs were 12 cars and the market steady. The local demand was firm and sales of good mixed weights were promptly made at steady to a shade stronger prices than Saturday's close. Shippers bought a few selected yorkers and lights. The market was generally unchanged, but a weaker feeling prevailed toward the close.

Cattle receipts were two cars, with the market steady.

Common to choice veals also advanced from $7.00 and $7.50 to $7.50 and $7.75.

Western hog receipts: Chicago, 32,000, estimated 35,000; Omaha, 5,000; Kansas City, 7,000. In Chicago there were 1,622 left over, with the market 5c lower.

Toledo closing quotations:

Hogs—Selected heavies, average 200 to 250 lbs., $6.45@6.50; good mediums, $6.45; yorkers, $6.40@6.45; bulk of sales, $6.45; pigs, $6.35@6.45; stags and roughs, $3.00@5.65.

Cattle—Good to prime steers, 1,500 lbs. and up, $5.00@5.25; fair to choice steers, $4.60@5.90; good to choice feeders, $3.50@4.25; fair to best cows, $3.00 @3.50; heifers, $2.75@4.00; bulls, $3.00 @3.50; good to choice veals, $7.50@7.75; fair to common, $6.50@7.00.

Sheep — Prime wethers, $5.00@5.25; common to good yearlings, $4.20@4.65; lambs, good to choice, $6.50@7.00; good mixed to choice mixed, $4.75@5.00; culls and common, $2.50@3.75; spring lambs, $6.50@7.25.

U. S. Yards, Cleveland, O., Dec. 31.—(Special report to The Blade from Bower & Bower.—Hogs, receipts 40 cars; market strong. All grades, $6.55, closing steady. Best lambs, $7.75. Calves and sheep strong. Cattle steady, on good grades strong; 15c higher on common.

East Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 31.—(Special report to The Blade from Swope.)—Cattle, 150 cars; higher. Good to prime steers, $5.50@6.00; medium steers, $5.00@5.25; fat cows, $3.00@4.00; heifers, $3.75@4.50; bulls, $3.25@4.50; canners, $1.75@2.00. Hogs, 90 cars; lower. All grades, $6.65@6.70. Sheep, 50 cars; slow. Best lambs, $7.75@8.00; best wethers, $5.75; mixed sheep, $5.50; culls, $3.00@4.00; yearlings, $6.50@6.75.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—Cattle—Estimated receipts, 28,000; market 10c higher for the best; others steady; beeves, $4.10@6.80; cows and heifers, $1.65@5.10; stockers and feeders, $2.50@4.60; Texans, $3.75@4.50; westerns no sales; calves, $6.00@8.50. Hogs—Estimated receipts, 30,000; market weak; mixed and butchers', $6.15@6.42½; good heavy, $6.30@6.45; rough heavy, $6.00@6.15; light, $6.05@6.37½; pigs, $5.50@6.15; bulk of sales, $6.25@6.40. Sheep—Estimated receipts, 25,000; market 10c lower; sheep, $3.75@5.80; lambs, $4.60@7.75.

Union Stock Yards, Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 31.—(Brinkman, Wood & Beck's Special Report to The Blade.)—One hundred and forty cars cattle, 10@15c higher. Sixty loads hogs; heavy, mediums, heavy and light Yorkers pigs, all $6.75. Fifteen cars sheep; stronger; sheep, $4.50@5.85; lambs, $5.50@8.00. Calves, 6@9c.

Money and Stocks.

New York, Dec. 31.—(Wall Street.)—The feature of the opening dealings in stocks was the feverish movement in Reading. Two hundred shares sold at first at 132, compared with 132⅛ on Saturday, but the next sale of two thousand shares was at 131 followed by 1,500 shares at 131½ and then 1,500 shares at 130. Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault Ste. Marie dropped 2, Northern Pacific 1½, Union Pacific 1¼, Canadian Pacific, Pennsylvania, Colorado Fuel and Distillers Securities large fractions. There was a sprinkling of small gains. Changes in the general list were small and transactions light.

Pressure in the stock market was continued on about the same lines as last week, Reading, the Hill group and other western stocks being liquidated from time to time. This selling caused a drop of 3¾ in Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault Ste. Marie, 3 in Illinois Central, 2½ in Anaconda, 2 in Canadian Pacific, 1⅜ in Great Northern preferred, and 1 in St. Louis & San Francisco second preferred, Great Northern Ore Certificates, American Ice securities, Colorado Fuel and People's Gas. Buying orders were placed in Reading after it touched 130 and there was a gradual recovery to 132. The general list also moved up sharply, practically all of the losses being restored. General Electric advanced 1½.

Reports were circulated that settlements had been effected of some vulnerable accounts. Anxiety was relieved to some extent, but Great Northern preferred and Northern Pacific weakened again. The former declined 2½ and the latter 2¼. Great Northern Ore Certificates lost 1¾, Virginia Iron 2 and Kansas City Southern preferred 1. A 30 per cent rate for call money showed the pressure of the January money settlements.

Bonds were irregular.

N. Y. Stock Market.

Stocks.	Open.	High.	Low.	Close 1:45.
Am. Loco. com.	71½	71½	71⅛	71¼
Am. Sg. Rfg. Co. ..	132⅛	133¼	132⅛	133¼
Atchison	103½	104¾	102⅞	104¼
Am. Car & F. Co...	42⅜	42⅞	42	42⅞
Anaconda	288	290	286	289½
Amal. Copper	113⅞	114¾	113⅛	114⅜
Am. Smelters	148¾	149½	148¼	149½
Am. Woolen Co.	32½	32½	32½	32½
Allis Chal pfd.	44	44½	44	44½
Am. Fy. com.	10	10	10	10
Balt. & Ohio	119	119	118¾	118¾
B'lyn R. Trans	78¾	79⅜	78½	78¾
Canadian Pac.	192	192¾	190¾	192½
Clover Leaf	33¼	33½	33¼	33¼
Colorado Fuel	52	52¾	51¼	52¾
Ches. & Ohio	55	55½	54⅞	55½
Del. & Hudson	220½	222	220½	222
Distillers' Sec.	70½	71⅝	70½	71⅝
Erie com.	42½	43⅛	42¼	43
Erie 1st pfd.	74¾	74¾	74¾	74¾
Erie 2nd pfd.	65	65	64⅞	65
Ill. Central	165	165	165	165
K. C. Sou. pfd.	60⅛	60⅛	60	60
Louis. & Nash.	142	143	141	143
Mex. Central	26⅛	26⅝	26⅛	26⅝
Missouri Pac	90¼	29⅛	90¼	92
M., K. & T. com....	40	40½	39½	40¼
North Am. Co.......	88	88	88	88
N. Y. Central	129¾	130⅞	129¾	130¼
N. & W. com	91¼	91¼	91¼	91¼
Penn. Ry	137⅜	138⅛	137¼	138⅛
Pacific Mail	37½	37½	37½	37½
People's Gas Co.....	98	98	96⅞	97½
Reading com	132	134¼	130	133¾
Rock Island	29¾	30	29⅝	30
Rep. I. & S. Co.....	38	38¾	37⅜	38¾
Rep. pfd	96⅞	96⅞	96⅞	96⅞
So. Ry.......	32⅜	32½	32⅛	32⅛
St. Paul	146¾	148⅞	146½	148½
Southern Pacific ..	92	92⅝	91⅜	92⅛
Texas Pacific	35	35½	35	35½
Union Pacific	178½	180	177⅝	179½
U. S. Steel..........	47½	48⅛	47¼	48⅛
U. S. Steel pfd.......	104⅛	104⅜	104	104⅜
Wabash pfd.......	37	37⅜	36½	37⅜
Wab. Deb. Bs......	74½	74¾	74½	74¾

Cotton.

New York, Dec. 31.—The cotton market opened quiet at a decline of 1@3 points and showed little feature during the early trading. Both New Orleans and Liverpool were closed. It was a notice day, but few notices were issued and near months showed no special movement. Prices continued around the opening figures during the middle of the morning and there was hardly enough business to import any positive tone to the market.

The market was very quiet during the late forenoon, but prices ruled steady and at midday were about unchanged to 1 point lower. Spot quiet; middling uplands, 10.65; Middling gulf, 10.90. Estimated receipts at the ports today, 63,000 bales against 48,188 last week and 13,315 last year. For the week, 280,000 bales against 311,764 last week and 154,945 last year. Today's receipts at Houston 14,424 bales against 8,909 last year.

Toledo Produce.

Butter—Fancy Elgin creamery, 1-lb. prints, 33c; solid packed, 32c; dairy, 18@22c.

Eggs—Strictly fresh, 30c; storage, 24c.

Cheese—Michigan full cream, 14c.

Cabbage—York state Danish, bbl., $1.25.

Brussels Sprouts, 15c qt.

Beets—New, bu., 50c.

Turnips—Bu. 40c.

Lettuce—Per lb., 16c.

New Valencia Onions in 3 bushel cases at $3.75 per pkg.

Spanish Onions—Per crate, $1.60.

California Celery—Mammoth, dozen, $1.00; fancy, $1.60@1.75.

Home grown onions, 60c per bu.

Garlic, 9c per lb.

Potatoes—Bushel, 50c.

Canadian Rutabagas, 40c bu.

Sweet Potatoes — Jersey, per bbl., $3.10; per bu., $1.00.

Round Radishes—Per dozen, 30c.

Hubbard Squash—Doz., $1.50.

Carrots—Bu., 60c.

Parsnips—Bu., 60c.

Oranges—Florida, box, $3.00; California navels, $3.00@3.25 per box; Florida Grape Fruit, $3.50.

Apples—New, homegrown, 60@75c bu.; Snow, bu., $1.00; Greenings, $2.75 per bbl.; Baldwins, $2.75 per bbl.; Spies, $2.90 per bbl.

Bananas—Per bunch, $1.25@1.75.

Lemons—Italian, 300 size, fancy, $4.50; 360 size, $3.50; Californias, $4.50.

Dates—Fard, per lb., 8½c; Hallowee, 6¼c; 1-lb. pkgs 7c, new stock. Stuffed dates, 90c per doz. packages.

Turkish Figs, 2¼ inch, per lb., 11c; Turkish figs, 3 inch, per lb., 15c; California figs, 1 lb. cartons, 30 to box, 75@80c.

Grapes—Malaga grapes, bbl., $5.50@6.00; English Colmar's, $1.15 per pound.

Cranberries—Late Howes, bbl., $8.00; Jersey, bbl $7.50

Poultry—Alive—Chickens, 10c; geese, 10c; ducks, 11c; young turkeys, 16c per pound.

Poultry—Dressed—Chickens, 11c; turkeys, 16c; ducks, 13@13½c; geese, 12½@13c.

Dressed Hogs—8½c; cows, 4@6½c; lambs, 8@9c; spring lambs, 11@12c; calves, 9@10c.

N. Y. Produce.

New York, Dec. 31.—Poultry, dressed weak; western chickens, 12½@15c; turkeys, 14@18c; fowls, 8@13c. Butter firm; receipts 3,450; street price: Extra creamery, 33c. Official prices: Creamery, common to extra, 23@32c; held, common to extra, 22@30c; state dairy, common to firsts, 21@28c; renovated, common to extra, 18@24c; western factory, common to firsts, 18@22c; western imitation creamery, firsts 23@24c. Cheese quiet; receipts, 257. State, full cream, small and large, September fancy, 14½c; do October best, 13½@13¾c; do good to prime, 12½@13c; do winter made average beast, 13c; do inferior, 11@12c; skims, 2@11c. Eggs easy; receipts 5,177; state, Pennsylvania and nearby fancy selected white, 37@38c; do choice, 33@36c; do mixed extra, 31@32c; western firsts, 27; (official price, first 27c); 25@26c.

Chicago Produce.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—Butter firm; creameries, 22@31c; dairy, 20@27c. Eggs at mark, cases included, 21 steady; daisies, 13½c; twins Young Americas, 14c.